

THE JOURNAL

• Friday, March 2, 2001 • 50 cents (tax included)

Today is Read Across America Day Read a book with a young person

Inside Albany High music program crosses the digital divide [A10]



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

EL CERRITO High School student Alexander Manetas is presented with his award by Dennis Chan. Manetas won first place in the Physical Science 12th grade division of the West Contra Costa Science Fair with his study of magnetic field shielding.

Young scientists of the future honored

West Contra Costa Science Fair gives out 109 awards

By local students were among those honored at the annual West Contra Costa Science Fair on Feb. 12 at Contra Costa College in Pablo.

Sponsored by the Council of Industries and the West Contra Costa Unified School District, the fair showed off 165 projects from eight schools.

The Hal Magarian Memorial Award, including a cash prize, was given to Pinole Valley High School ninth-grader John Michael Janda Jr. His project was "The Effect of Rainfall on an Aquatic Ecosystem."

The Bill Tobin Award was presented to Alexander Manetas, a senior at El Cerrito High, for his project, "Magnetic Field Shielding."

The winners of special awards, with cash prizes, were Sartaj Sarkaria of Carquinez Middle School in Vallejo, Robert Taunton from Juan Crespi Junior High School, Matthew Jande of Pinole Middle School, David and Stacey Tanaka of Portola Middle School in El Cerrito and Kit San Chung of El Cerrito High.

A total of 109 awards were presented in behavioral,

physical and physical sciences, and math and computer science.

All first- and second-place winners are eligible to enter the San Francisco Bay Area Science Fair on March 15 at the San Francisco County Fair Building (Hall

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JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

EL CERRITO High junior Stephanie Teng receives her award from Dennis Chan for her entry on Frequencies of Musical Instruments and Mouthpieces.

Albany school officials threatened with recall

By Tom Lochner

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — School officials took to the streets Tuesday from teachers and students for resistance's demands for a 10 percent pay hike.

"A promise is a promise and a promise should be kept," said Albany High 10th grader Ali Ramezanzadeh, urging the board to pay the 10 percent.

Albany Teachers Association President David DeHart said 10 percent is the minimum his members will accept.

Union and administration representatives will next meet with a state-appointed mediator March 15.

School officials say the district's financial picture has worsened since November and that today even a modest increase is impossible without

out cuts.

March 15 is the deadline for the district to issue pink slips to teachers. Board president Marsha Skinner said she expects a vote on a first round of cuts at a board meeting Tuesday. Other cuts will follow at a special meeting March 13, when the board will receive an interim budget report, Skinner said.

The board is considering eliminating some math, physics, chemistry, French, Spanish and art sections at Albany High; music and the 7th-grade seventh period at Albany Middle; and making cuts in music, science and visual and performing arts in the elementary schools. The cuts would eliminate the equivalent of more than 10 full-time teacher positions, two custodian positions and cuts in counselor hours.

On Tuesday, the board added the deputy superintendent's position to the list of possible cuts for a savings in salary and benefits of about \$118,000.

Many of the approximately 100 people in attendance Tuesday wore leis to protest Superintendent Gary Mills' absence from a special meeting Feb. 22 due to a Hawaii vacation.

The growing aura of hostility prompted one speaker, the sister of a second-year teacher at Albany Middle School, to warn against bad after-effects that could last for many years.

"It's clear that something has gone considerably awry," said Andrea Mullarkey. "Let's let this be a healable situation."

City puts some cash in teen cafe's tip jar

By Clare Curley

STAFF WRITER

Fans of financially struggling Cafe Eclectica gave cheers of delight Monday when City Council members gave in to their request for an \$18,000 contribution to bail out the teen enterprise.

Despite Vice Mayor Peggy Thomas' pleas to stick with policy, council members Allan Maris, Jewel Ok, wachi and Mario DiPrisco voted in favor of the one-time-only contribution.

After much discussion, teens and volunteers spoke out in an effort to convince members that giving money to the cafe, located at 1309 Solano Avenue, was a worthwhile risk.

"I know more teens are going to be coming now," said Albany High School junior Miguel Irazabal, who volunteers at the cafe.

A primary claim of teens was that the city has not offered enough support for kids their age while doing out money to programs for other age groups.

One student said that allowing the cafe to close down would force teens to return to their former hangout in front of the local 7-Eleven.

"I see this as a space that didn't exist when I was in high school," argued Gianna Kalagian-Federico, an AmeriCorp volunteer who works at the cafe.

She emphasized the job skills and artistic experience kids gain at the locale as a reason to help out.

Members of Community Learning Services (CLAS), the group that provides fiscal oversight for the cafe, presented a report at the meeting in response to questions brought up at a prior meeting about the cafe.

"The cafe views every child 'at risk' who does not have involved adult role models," it states. "Cafe Eclectica provides teens with an alternative to 'just hanging out' and offers a way to participate in the community and make a positive difference."

Currently, the cafe has a bank balance of \$5,284.

According to the report, projected expenses for the year 2001-2002 amount to \$116,239. The \$17,976 from the city, combined with anticipated funding grants, would keep the operation out of the red.

The new money will contribute to pay for a manager (\$9,728) and pay for March-June rent (\$5,248), utilities (\$2,000), and Security & Improvements costs (\$1,000).

Other funding sources include the East Bay Community Foundation and local and business donations.

Carolie Sly, the CLAS Executive director, told the council, "Now that we have acquired the necessary health permits to serve prepared food, we need a cafe manager to oversee the food service."

The organization also provides a licensed nutritionist to give advice.

See CAFE, Page A10

City hesitates on group's request for parade support

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A request for the city to sponsor this year's Sister Cities Parade and Multicultural Festival ran into problems at last week's City Council meeting. Questions were raised about the cost of a city sponsorship and about fairness issues.

After discussing the matter for some time, the council decided to continue it to its March 5 meeting when city staff will return with more information and recommendations.

Dr. Eve Ma, president of Celebrating Culture & Community, the group that organizes the annual parade and festival, made the sponsorship request at the Feb. 20 council meeting.

The growing aura of hostility prompted one speaker, the sister of a second-year teacher at Albany Middle School, to warn against bad after-effects that could last for many years.

"We feel this is a great opportunity to promote the city of El Cerrito and its advantages," Ma said in her request to the council. "We hope that the city will co-sponsor as in the past. Specifically, we ask that the city provide the necessary police support, allow us some space in the publication that goes out to all city residents, sup-

port our use of the Community Center and engage in any other forms of support that it would seem indicated."

The estimated cost for El Cerrito to host the event in 1999 was \$2,369. Last year, when Richmond hosted, El Cerrito contributed approximately \$1,154, mostly for police parade route control and police planning. Projected costs for the upcoming parade and festival have not been completed, but Sandra Chapek, city employees services manager, estimates they will "closely mirror" 1999 event costs, with adjustment for employee salary increases.

Councilwoman Gina Brusatori said the parade sponsorship has been an "ad hoc request every year" and has not been considered in a competitive context, along with other competing interests. She differentiated between "hard dollar costs," such as city fees for use of the Community Center and "soft costs" such as police and staff time and planning.

"The city of El Cerrito has an opportunity to rent all or part of the Community Center, among its other buildings, for a fee," Brusatori told Ma. "Every other not-for-profit group has the ability to rent for a reduced fee, but in fact, they pay. You, for whatever reason, your group, believes that you should be treated differently, that you should not have to pay the hard-dollar costs."

The city sets three rental rates for

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Accessibility wins national recognition for El Cerrito

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The city has won national recognition and \$2000 for efforts to make the community more accessible to people with disabilities. The National Organization on Dis-

ability, based in Washington, D.C., along with its sponsoring partner, the United Parcel Service, awarded second place (for cities under 50,000 people) to El Cerrito for outstanding disability programs.

El Cerrito was among seven cities

and three counties nationwide to win in the organization's Year 2001 Community Awards Competition. The annual competition recognizes outstanding, exemplary local programs and efforts that expand the participation of citizens with disabilities in

the life of the community," according to the National Organization on Disability's announcement of the winners.

"El Cerrito, Calif., set the goal of making the city more accessible for people with a variety of disabilities,"

the announcement states. "The efforts resulted in audible traffic signals at all intersections on the major commercial street; a new accessible playground that serves

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WORTH CHECKING OUT

Free NEAT survivor course

The Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Teams program in El Cerrito and Kensington offers a comprehensive emergency preparedness survival course that includes hands-on practice of fire fighting, medical triage, search and rescue, and other skills. The course is offered four consecutive Thursday evenings from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. from March 15 through April 5, with the hands-on Skills Practice Session on Saturday April 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Topics covered include home and neighborhood preparedness and organization, structural and non-structural hazard mitigation, utility control, fire suppression, hazardous materials awareness, emergency communications, disaster medicine and psychology, damage assessment, and search and rescue. The course is free. For location and reservation, call Pat Catell, 510-525-7268.

Shoreline Bird Blitz

Join Phil Maynard and Steve Linsley on Sunday, March 4, for the annual Richmond Shoreline Bird Blitz. Learn to identify shore birds and waterfowl. In past years, we have identified 50-plus species, good for beginners and expert birders. Meet at the west side of the El Cerrito Del Norte Bart Station parking lot at 9 a.m. Participants will then carpool to different Richmond locations. Bring binoculars, snacks and walking shoes. Rain cancels.

Local art in foyer

The Albany Arts Committee announces the opening of a new exhibit, "Three-Ply," tapestries by local artist Care Standley. The loom-woven tapestries will be on display March 4-24 at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Made with an ancient and time-consuming technique, Standley's tapestries are striking and her imagery contemporary. This selection of tapestries embraces the complexity and subtleties involved in creating textiles woven on a loom. The opening reception is from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 4.

Spring Song and Arts

The Spring Song and Arts Festival will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 4, at the Albany Veterans' Memorial Building, 1325 Portland Ave.,

Memorial Park, Albany. Activities for the whole family include: arts and crafts-making, a silent auction, and special music for all ages, with singer Betsy Rose in concert at 1:30 p.m. She brings her special blend of wisdom, humor, and heart that invites the whole family to sing along and celebrate the earth, the power of love and the magic of childhood. Admission is \$6 per person/\$10 family. The festival is a fundraiser for Crestmont School, a parent co-op elementary school. For more information, call Billie Warden at 510-237-4164.

Bet on education at ECHS Casino Night

"Gambling" at blackjack, craps and roulette will be the main feature of the 8th annual Casino Night fund-raiser to be presented by the Friends of El Cerrito High School from 7 to 11 pm on Friday April 6 at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito. The community is encouraged to show their support by attending this fun-filled evening. Tickets (\$25 each and \$40 for two) include hors d'oeuvres, desserts and script for use at the tables. Throughout the evening additional script will be sold, prizes will be awarded, a DJ will provide music, and a no-host beer and wine bar will be open. The tables are run by professionals and instruction is provided for non-gamblers, so everyone is welcome. Needed are community sponsors, businesses and individuals to underwrite the cost of equipment rental, and prizes such as gift certificates and merchandise. Gaming table sponsorships are \$200 each. To sponsor a table, purchase tickets, or donate prizes, call chairperson, Janet McKnight at 510-525-3272. Advance ticket reservations are advised for Casino Night, ECHS's only all-school fundraiser. Proceeds will go towards an electronic message board in front of the school and scholarships to deserving graduating seniors.

Toddler Time at library

The Albany Library will be offering a toddler time for children 18 months to 36 months beginning March 8 and ending March 29. The program will be presented on Thursdays from 10:30 to 11 a.m. This fun-filled half hour will introduce parents and their children to

books, songs and games appropriate for the youngest readers. Parents must pre-register, and parental participation is a must. There is a limit of one child per adult, as each child needs a lap to sit on. To register, parents can call the children's desk at 510-526-3720 or visit the branch at 1247 Marin Ave. The program funded through the support of the Y & H Soda Foundation to the Alameda County Library Foundation.

Pre School Story time

Pre-school Story time, for ages 3 to 5, resumes at the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. The story time series runs through March 21. No sign-up is necessary. For more information, call the children's desk at the library, 526-3720.

Help Find Frogs

Learn how to take part in this year's Berkeley-to-El Sobrante frog survey, 7 p.m. on Monday, March 5, at Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin, Albany; or 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7, at El Sobrante Library, 4191 Appian Way (at San Pablo Dam Rd.), El Sobrante. Folk singer Nancy Schimmele will lead froggy songs. You'll learn about local frogs and toads and how to identify their chirps and croaks, then listen for calls after dark. Survey sponsors are Friends of Five Creeks, Friends of Baxter Creek, and SPANNERS (San Pablo Watershed Neighbors Education and Restoration Society). For information, call 510-848-9358, e-mail 5creeks@aol.com, or visit www.fivecreeks.org.

German language preschool

The Bay Area Kinder Stube preschool will hold an open house for prospective students and their families from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, March 3, at the school, 842 Key Route Blvd. (at Solano) in Albany. BAKS is an intimate, German-language based preschool for children ages 2-5. Our mission is to make German language development an integral part of the social-emotional, physical and cognitive development of the child. Enrollment is limited to 20 children. BAKS offers a full morning program Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Extended care is available from 1:30-5:30 p.m. three days a week. Details: Annamaria Torok, director, 510-525-3105.

STAFF REPORT

EL CERRITO — On Feb. 19, shortly after 6 p.m., two young men and two teenage boys were arrested after they were caught allegedly breaking into a Toyota Celica in a car port on the 3300 block of Carlson Boulevard. An 18-year-old acted as a lookout while a 24-year-old tried to break in the car according to a police report. When a witness confronted the group, they fled.

Police spoke to several witnesses who described the suspects, which helped them locate them near the intersection of San Pablo and Stockton avenues. The two adults were transported to the Main Detention Facility in Martinez, and the two juveniles were released to their parents.

■ Two men driving a stolen car were arrested after reportedly leading police on a high-speed chase in El Cerrito early the morning of Feb. 19. It began when officer Scott Clatt stopped the suspects, a 25-year-old Richmond resident and 21-year-old Pinole resident, near the intersection of San Pablo Avenue and Bayview Avenue. A check of the license plate showed that the car had been reported stolen to the Vallejo Police Department a week earlier.

The chase ended when the two suspects collided with a parked car at Bayview Avenue and South 56th Street. Both were transported to the

POLICE REPORTS

Two car break-in suspects arrested

Main Detention Facility in Martinez.

■ The night of Feb. 17, police nabbed three juveniles suspected of stealing a purse from a woman near the intersection of San Pablo and Knott avenues while pretending to have a weapon, according to a report. Officer Scott Clatt said that around 11 p.m., he saw one of the youths running from the scene and heard a woman screaming for help. Officers located the other two suspects, who were also identified by the woman. Her purse was returned to her. The suspects were taken to juvenile hall.

■ The evening of Feb. 18, a 51-year-old El Cerrito man was arrested for allegedly manufacturing methamphetamine at his house, on the 700 block of Colusa Avenue.

Police reported that they showed up at the suspect's residence early in the morning with a search warrant and arrested him after discovering items used to make the illegal drug, as well as a quantity of the drug itself.

■ On Feb. 19, a 21-year-old Berkeley man was arrested on the 9900 block of San Pablo Avenue for assaulting a police officer, after he allegedly spit on El Cerrito officer Paul Keith during an investigation.

The suspect was being questioned along with another man around 6:15 a.m. following a report that the two of them were fighting in public.

■ In early February, a 38-year-old

woman reported that her name Social Security number had been given by an unknown person to open a regular phone account. The incident occurred at Staples on 15th and Pablo Ave.

■ A 26-year-old man was arrested early in the morning on Feb. 18, for car theft, possession of burglar tools and possession of a controlled substance. Arresting officer Officer Bonini said the suspect admitted driving a stolen car in the 400 block of Stockton Street and demonstrated where he started the car by jacking up the driver into the ignition position according to a report. In addition to the car, he was found with a small amount of suspected methamphetamine and burglary tools located in his possession when he was placed under arrest. The car was recovered and its owner compensated.

■ Police say they discovered number of stolen checks on a 70-year-old woman they arrested for shoplifting at Walgreens Drug Store on the 11500 block of San Pablo Avenue Monday afternoon. At around 3 p.m. an officer responded to a report of a shoplifter being detained in security. According to a report, the suspect also provided false information during the booking process. The woman was charged with possession of property, petty theft, and giving false information to a police officer.

ident on the 1100 block of Dartmouth Street reported that, during the day, the thieves had stolen his black Toyota truck that was parked in front of his home. There were no witnesses. Some left the residence's driveway on the front porch that had been in his wallet in the truck. Police are investigating.

■ On Feb. 21, officers responded to the BART path near the 800 block of Masonic Avenue on reports of an intoxicated man walking northbound. Officers contacted the 41-year-old Richmond man, who was indeed found to be intoxicated and was arrested.

■ About 1:45 a.m. on Feb. 22, the CHP from the Hayward-Oakland area reported locating a gray '88 Toyota Camry that had been reported stolen from Albany. It was not damaged, and they did not have anyone in custody. The car was towed and the owner notified.

■ On the morning of Feb. 22, a res-

WEST COUNTY SCHOOL WATCH

Hercules secession vote ill-conceived

The advisory vote on whether the City of Hercules should secede from the school district, Measure G, is on next Tuesday's (March 6) Hercules special election ballot.

Voters are being asked to cast a yes or no advisory vote on the following measure:

"Shall the people of the City of Hercules secede from the West Contra Costa Unified School District and form a new school district or merge with an adjoining school district?"

Everyone involved in the debate around Measure G agrees on one thing: without a careful and objective study regarding the costs and benefits of secession it is impossible to know whether such a move would have positive or negative consequences for the children served by our schools.

As worded, Measure G asks citi-

zens to cast an advisory vote, yes or no, on whether the City of Hercules should proceed with secession.

Proponents now say that the reason Measure G is on the ballot is to advise the City Council on whether to execute the necessary feasibility study. However, nowhere is such an analysis authorized, advised, or even mentioned in the language of the measure.

Proponents of Measure G also do not mention their intent to implement such a study in their ballot argument in favor of the measure, which provided ample space to list all of the reasons why voters should support Mea-

sure G.

It is a very confusing issue where the consequences of a "yes" or a "no" vote have not clearly explained to the voter. It has never been a clear explanation why the measure was put on the ballot and what policy implications flow from either its passage or its failure.

The question also suffers from a variety of other technical problems, for example, one of the key issues confronting Hercules (that will be resolved with the opening of the new school).

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Residents monitor traffic control funding

By Clare Curley

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — As the city seeks more applicants to request traffic control measures for their streets, some residents already worry there won't be enough money to handle the few plans in the works.

Several Traffic and Safety commissioners showed up at a recent Capital Improvement Projects meeting to get the latest scoop on traffic projects, as well as remind councilmembers where they stand.

While commissioner Ruth Ganong commended the City Council for compiling such a comprehensive report — one that covered everything from parks to buildings to sewers — her main concern was controlling traffic on her street.

"On Ordway Avenue, we want speed tables (a smaller version of a speed bump that limits vehicles to driving at no more than 25 mph) to maintain the speed at 25 miles per hour. On the next few months.

"Our concern is the city might need \$50,000 (to match) a Safe Routes grant," added Ganong.

Though the Jan. 29 meeting was not intended for discussion, council members heard their concerns and said the item will be on their agenda in the next few months.

"We're here because we'd like to see something happen," said commissioner Lubov Mazur.

There may be nothing to see quite yet.

Though the Jan. 29 meeting was not intended for discussion, council members heard their concerns and said the item will be on their agenda in the next few months.

"Our concern is the city might need \$50,000 (to match) a Safe Routes grant," added Ganong.

While the city may have to pay a maximum of \$50,000 to match a Safe Routes grant, according to community development director Anna Chaney.

The grant could mean a total of \$500,000 in money for new signs and safer streets surrounding schools in Albany.

But people might be jumping the gun, according to community development director Anna Chaney.

True, the city may have to pay a maximum of \$50,000 to match a Safe Routes grant, according to community development director Anna Chaney.

Also, by the time Albany received word on the grant, it will have received its next installation of traffic calming funds.

In fact, now that money is set aside, she is trying to seek out more people to petition for changes on their blocks.

So far only two petitions have been handed in, requesting speed tables, the least expensive item on the list of possibilities. Mid-block chokers, speed bumps, and other more pricey calming

measures are also an option, she said.

People at the meeting also worried about other projects, like one to test alternative calming measures along Marin, but the sources of such funds will be shifting around somewhat in the coming months.

Residents have the rest of the month to hand in their list of signatures for possible measures on their blocks.

And being the early bird doesn't mean getting the worm. Projects will be prioritized according to their relative urgency, and must already be on a list of some 50 possibilities the city has mapped out.

Residents can pay a visit to City Hall to pick up petitions, or to view the list. Feb. 28 is the deadline for handing in an application.

"This is still a prior of the city. I'm beginning to explore other funding sources," said Chaney, who received the first application last week. "I just want folks to know there is a limitation."

EL CERRITO BRIEFS

Toddler Time offered at the Albany Library

The Albany Library will be offering a toddler time for children 16 months beginning March 8, and ending March 29. The 30-minute program will be presented on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and will introduce parents and their children to books, songs and games appropriate for the youngest readers.

Parents must pre-register and parental participation is a must. There is a limit of one child per adult. As each child needs a lap to sit on, registration is now open. To register, parents can call the children's desk at 510-526-3720 or visit the Albany Library at 1247 Marin Ave. The library is wheelchair accessible.

"This is an excellent opportunity for parents and their toddlers to spend some time sharing books and language," said Bonnie Janssen, the branch's children's services coordinator. "This type of interaction is so important for the young child and

provides a foundation for their emergent literacy skills."

This program is funded through the support of the Y & H Soda Foundation to the Alameda County Library Foundation.

Dragonflies' secrets will be revealed at Friends' program

Meet some dragonflies at the Friends of Baxter Creek March meeting from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, at 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, in El Cerrito.

Ever wondered about those flashy dragonflies fluttering around the nearest creek or pond? Come to a very special slide show on local dragonflies at the Friends of Baxter Creek's monthly meeting. Kathy Biggs, author of the only guide book on California dragonflies, will give a talk on these often underappreciated but beautiful insects, including how to identify them using size and wing color.

Biggs got started with her dragonfly fascination when she read an article that suggested changing unused swimming pools into garden ponds, which is exactly what she did. She'll share her secrets for creating a garden pond that attracts dragonflies and damselflies.

This event is funded in part by the California State Coastal Conservancy and coordinated by the Aquatic Outreach Institute. For more information, contact Apple Szostak of the Aquatic Outreach Institute at 510-231-5778 or apple@aoiinstitute.org.

APAL awards ceremony is Saturday

On March 2 the Albany Police Activities League (APAL) will host its annual award ceremony for the outstanding athletes who participate in its basketball and wrestling programs. The ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. The evening's events will include a raffle to raise funds for its youth programs.

APAL would like to thank the following businesses for their donations to the raffle: Circuit City, Paramount's Great America, Nizza La Bella, Oaks Jewelers, Big 5 Sporting Goods, Six Flags Marine World, San Francisco Giants, Oakland A's, Al-

bany Pool, Mary and Joe's Sporting Goods, Tilden Park Golf Course, and Husby-Gerry Family Chiropractic.

The ceremony is APAL's largest annual fund-raising activity. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Albany Chamber of Commerce. Cash donations for direct use in APAL programs are also welcome. If you would like to make a donation, it can be mailed to the following address: APAL, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany 94706.

Choral artists performing in Kensington

The San Francisco Choral Artists, a 22-voice chamber choir with a varied repertoire and unique programming, performs at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 10, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Place in Kensington.

The program will include "By The Waters Of Babylon: A Celebration of Psalms", and works by Allison, Bach, Brahms, Goudimel, Harlap, Ives, Lestocart, Mendelssohn, Pinkham, Poulen, Purcell, Schumann, Singer, Sweetlinck, Tarlow, Vivanco and others.

Tickets: \$17 general admission, \$14 seniors/students/disabled, \$12 groups of six or more.

Details: 415-979-5779 or www.sfcfa.org.

OBITUARY

William Lacy, Albany Bowl co-founder, dies at age 80

William Boone Lacy, died at Alta Bates Hospital on Feb. 22. Bill and his father Frank Lacy built Albany碗 in 1949 and operated it through 1964.

A lifelong resident of the East Bay, he was born in Berkeley on Jan. 30, 1920. He and his wife Patricia (1934-86) had resided in Pinole since 1964.

He graduated as a music major from San Francisco State College and Stanford University. He served in the Army Signal Corp during World War II. He was a past presi-

dent of the Northern California Bowling Proprietors Association and Bowling Proprietors Association of America. He played jazz violin and arrange music for bands from junior high school through his service in WW II.

He is survived by his children,

William Lacy of Weston, Conn., Craig

Lacy of Bend, Ore., and Claudia Pisani of Albany, Calif., and his six grandchildren.

Memorial services were held Feb. 26 at Sunset View Mortuary in El Cerrito.

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The peanut farmer is looking better and better these days

Jimmy Carter might or might not be the best ex-president in our history. (Admirers of John Quincy Adams could contest that claim.) But there's no doubt as to who is the worst ex-president. And it's only been a month!



MARTIN SNAPP

Snapp Shots

last 20 years — he hasn't been invited to a Democratic convention since he got tagged with the "loser" label in 1980 — is now the party's man of the moment. Expect to see politicians who wouldn't have been caught dead in the same photo op with him a few months ago suddenly calling themselves "Carter Democrats."

Hypocrisy? Of course. We learned from the master over the last eight years.

The Republicans found that out during the '90s, when they got in bed with the radical right. Sure, it bought them some short-term advantage. But a few years later, they were stunned to find they'd alienated Mexican-Americans, African-Americans, women — in short, the fastest growing segments of the electorate.

And now, a similar fate has befallen us Democrats. We were so desperate to get the White House back after so many years in the wilderness, we were only too happy to sign on with this arrogant jerk. The result? We've lost the White House, the Congress, the courts and — most important — the moral high ground.

A month ago, I couldn't see how George W. Bush could possibly win re-election. Now I can't see how he can lose. And it serves us right.

The irony is that Jimmy Carter, who has been The Invisible Man in his own party for the

hand, was said to be very considerate to his valet. Ditto for Ronald Reagan and Jesse Helms.

I think it's because liberals are so busy concentrating on solving the Big Picture, they don't have the time or energy to be nice to individuals. But conservatives aren't even aware that the Big Picture exists. So they have the leisure to be kind to what they'd call "the little people."

Most people — especially in civil liberties-minded Berkeley — would be upset if they found out the government was going through their garbage. But not Susan and Roy Bogas.

That's because they are \$500 richer as a result. They're the first winners of the Berkeley Ecology Center's Cash For Trash contest. The Ecology Center went through their garbage with a fine-tooth comb, but there was a recyclable to be found.

"The phone rang at 7 a.m.," recalls Susan, "and the man said he was calling from the Ecology Center and he had our garbage on a table in front of him. He wanted my permission to go through it. I said OK, and he said, 'Is it all right if Channel 2 films the whole thing?'

"So I woke up my husband and said, 'Honey, wake up! Our garbage is going to be on TV!' We tuned to Channel 2, and there they were live, going through our trash. It was very exciting. But was even more exciting when they couldn't find any recyclables and awarded us the \$500."

Since the Trash For Cash contest is ongoing, I asked her for some hints about how we can win, too.

"We eat a lot of fresh food, so there isn't a lot to throw away," says Susan. "And I buy non-perishables in bulk, so I don't have a lot of packaging to get rid of. But

the biggest help is that the Ecology Center has greatly expanded the list of items it'll recycle. Now I can just throw all the paper together without having to sort it, as well as recycle my #1 and #2 bottles."

Sad faces on Oakland's Grand Avenue: Bugs the cat is dead.

Bugs, a female tortoise-shell, was the Queen of Grand Avenue for almost two decades, ever since she was rescued from a dumpster as a kitten.

For the first 15 years she lived at Tiffany's Pet Shop, right next to the Grand Lake Theater, where she won the hearts of the legions of admirers who often came into the store just to fuss over her.

When Tiffany's went belly-up five years ago, Bugs moved up the street to Second To None. And her many fans and admirers duly followed.

Then, when Second To None

folded last year, she moved across the street to the Vintage Parlor & Gallery and continued to sit on the counter and hold court there.

"She was the friendliest cat," says her last owner, Pamela Drake. "She loved to wash the faces of customers who leaned over to say hello to her."

Bugs was 18 years old when she died last week. Or maybe it's 19 or 20; nobody is quite sure. But one thing is certain: It's an era. She'll be missed.

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-273-9039, email him at catman@california.com, or write him c/o Hills Newspapers, 1969 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611.

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Opinion

VIEWPOINT

When man's best friend becomes his enemy

The recent tragic death of a young San Francisco woman attacked by two dogs has elicited considerable advice on how to avoid such attacks and how to deal with them if they occur. Some of this advice is good as far as it goes, and some of it could get you hurt or killed.

How do I know this? I am not an expert on dogs, but I have had extensive experience with them for over six decades. And I have learned a lot about them. I have consulted a veterinarian, who routinely handles aggressive dogs, and two police officers who train dogs for law enforcement work.

Before you dog fanciers take a piece of my for speaking some hard truths, know that I have owned seven dogs, been godfather- or "dogfather"—to another one, and long-time close friends with several more.

I am an unabashed dog lover whose life was saved by the family German shepherd. He dragged me out of the way of a car about to knock over me when I was a toddler.

Here are some sound rules for dealing with dogs:

- (1) Do not approach strange dogs, especially those tied up or confined in cars or behind fences. Believe warning signs.
- (2) Train children to avoid strange dogs and never leave them alone where a dog can get at them.
- (3) Don't disturb a dog that is barking or chewing on something or has puppies.

- (4) If set upon by a dog do not run; it will chase you down and bite you.

- (5) Never try to break up fighting dogs with your hands. Ignorance of this last dictum has left me with a long scar on my hand. I acquired it as a child when I tried to break up a dog fight.

- If there is a hose handy, use that to intervene with a stick or other implement. Dogs know when the tide has shifted against them. People are led to avoid eye contact with an attacking dog and remain motionless with their hands at their sides.

- The theory behind this is that by becoming "submissive" you will cease to be a "threat" to the attacking dog. This technique may work some cases, but in others it won't. Like people, some dogs are psychotic and more are just bullies.

- You may prefer letting some sense merrit decide whether or not to have you for lunch, but I never do. Nor have I ever been bitten in a canine confrontation. If a dog shows hostility, and you can't put a barrier between you, block him with anything at hand. This might be a bad case, handbag, book bag, shopping cart, lawn furniture, bike, bicycle or even a cardboard box. I used to carry a toolbox and use it a number of times to stop dogs at bay. Having no hands with which to seize an object, they became a great disadvantage.

- If there is nothing with which to block the dog, look for a piece of wood, pipe, a garden tool, or anything that will put distance between you and the animal. Keep implement pointed at his nose.

- Always held off two large dogs presenting the more aggressive with the end of my cane.

- A sturdy cane or walking stick is an excellent defense. Dogs are afraid of them, and they can be used to jab or strike if necessary. Only once have I had to lay a wooden cane to a dog. This brute knocked my smaller dog down and trying to kill her. I hit the attacker across the shoulders, and he went like a rocket. My dog escaped injury.

- If you are confronted by a pack of dogs, you should stand motionless with your hands at your sides. They are programmed to go for your arm if you something in your hand.

- They are also taught not to chew you if you do not resist or run.

- Never take a dog to a park unless I had a cane or walking stick with me. Most dogs are well behaved, but if you enter the exception, you will break your own stick, as you are.



DAVE
GREER

Man About Town



SHEILA CALLAHAN-YOUNG/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
THE AUTHOR'S friend Fozzy, a prize-winning Norwich Terrier, takes a driving lesson on an ATV by the sea.

not likely to find anything useful for defense in a park. Let thy staff comfort thee, as it is illegal to pack a rod.

A large umbrella—preferably one of those black ones with a metal point on the end—is also excellent protection. A San Francisco man recently wrote that he had been saved by a stranger and his umbrella. The victim was knocked down and so badly bitten he lost consciousness. The bumbashoot wielder almost certainly saved his life and that of his badly injured little dog.

The dog establishment advises people downed by a dog to curl into a ball with their hands over their ears and to remain motionless and silent. It is highly unlikely the man above would have been saved by this tactic.

Make every effort to stay on your feet when attacked by a dog. But if you go down, you are better off to cover your throat and face with your arms and fight your way back to your feet. There you can kick and may be able to get an implement or escape.

Calling out loudly for help could bring assistance and might actually help drive the dog off.

Here is one veterinary suggestion doing if you are caught in the open and have nothing with which to defend yourself: "Take two steps forward, point your hand at the dog and command loudly, 'Bad dog! Sit down!' Most dogs are familiar with this command. You must take authority and not be submissive. A strong offense is the best defense."

I did not know this technique—which is known as "posturing"—but came close to it a couple of times when attacked in the open by dogs. I stopped them short by taking a defensive stance and pointing my pocket knife at them. Dogs are afraid of anything in your hand. Holding your shoe or belt will at the least give you confidence and improve your "posture."

Pepper spray is very effective on dogs, but only if you get it in their eyes. (It is sold over-the-counter for about \$13.) Mace works on people, but not on dogs. A person not comfortable with the defensive measures I have mentioned would do well to keep a canister of spray handy.

Some of the most dangerous dogs are those few that attack without provocation and in complete silence. They often wait in ambush and strike from behind. If you see a dog trying to work round astern of you, don't let him do it; he's aiming to snack on you.

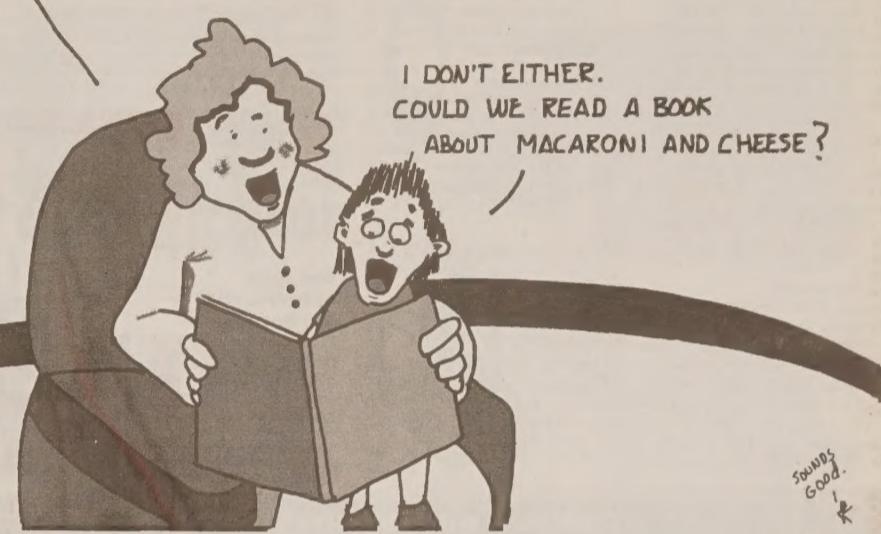
Two dogs are exponentially more dangerous than one, as the pack mentality takes over. Several or more dogs in a pack are a serious threat to both animals and people. A pack caught one of my dogs in the woods and killed him. They also terrorized and bit people.

Fortunately, you can stand off a pack of dogs with a stick just as you can an individual dog. I learned this when I walked to work nightly through a vicious pack. Once you convince the

See GREER, Page A9

IT'S READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY IN HONOR OF DR. SEUSS

"I DO NOT LIKE GREEN EGGS
AND HAM. I DO NOT LIKE THEM,
SAM I AM."



Sounds Good!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Conservation conversation

What do a sweater, a dust cloth, a novel, and a manual can opener have in common? They represent a few of the many small choices each of us can make every day to conserve energy.

A household commitment to conserve energy can make a real difference, both in terms of the utility bill and in terms of sharing the available energy wisely. This concept can be called "share the load." We are sharing a limited resource, and if anyone uses too much, there is less available for others.

The 3 percent Economic Uncertainty fund, instead of being carried over with a slight increase, was presented as cumulative, giving the impression that the teacher raises would push the district into bankruptcy. Grade 4/5 prep costs were counted twice because the teachers are part of the new hires, and it was then listed as a separate cost again.

The \$200,000 Gary Mills gave as projected savings were not counted at all. I have heard that the supplies and Conference and Professional Development expenses Gary says were cut were first doubled in this year's budget.

Can we please see comparison figures for the non-salary budget categories for the last few years? Because these major errors were so easily seen by the public, it is hard to believe that we have received the financial truth we need.

I believe we could initiate a more forward thinking management model here by raising the responsibility and pay for the site lead custodians and save on the large administrator's salary. Why do I keep feeling we are not getting the leadership we are paying for from our top administrators?

Finally, we are all counting on you, our elected School Board, to give teachers adequate pay raises to keep us current with the teachers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Surely you are embarrassed that we are currently at the bottom of both counties.

An open letter to the Albany school board

I am a teacher, parent and Albany taxpayer. I have lived and taught in Albany for 17 years. Both of my sons graduated from Albany High. I would like to share my reactions to last week's board meeting.

It was very dismaying that Gary Mills continued with his personal plans and went on vacation at this time rather than attending to the very pressing business of our district. It shows his priorities are not what we need. His report giving no recommendations for cuts in the district office contained no facts or figures. What are the full costs to the district for each of the superintendents including benefits, tax sheltered annuities, car allowance and any other district paid expense?

I have worked in this district a long time, both when there were two and three administrators. If it is true that Berkeley runs a district approximately three times our size, with two superintendents, can we not also man-

age? This would be a big savings away from cuts in programs and one that many feel should be considered. What do you say? If you looked closely, I am sure you would find many teachers putting in more hours than our superintendents at roughly half or less pay.

The budget report presented by Walter Wallace was long overdue and, with just a cursory glance from the public, seemed incomplete, misleading and full of errors. Costs were inflated and revenues underestimated.

The 3 percent Economic Uncertainty fund, instead of being carried over with a slight increase, was presented as cumulative, giving the impression that the teacher raises would push the district into bankruptcy. Grade 4/5 prep costs were counted twice because the teachers are part of the new hires, and it was then listed as a separate cost again.

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I believe we could initiate a more forward thinking management model here by raising the responsibility and pay for the site lead custodians and save on the large administrator's salary. Why do I keep feeling we are not getting the leadership we are paying for from our top administrators?

Finally, we are all counting on you, our elected School Board, to give teachers adequate pay raises to keep us current with the teachers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Surely you are embarrassed that we are currently at the bottom of both counties.

I am sure you also understand the implication of such low pay for AUSD's future. Albany's ability to attract and retain the quality of teachers that have helped provide its reputation and ranking as a quality school district will not continue unless salaries are brought up substantially.

Teacher quality will slide down because the best qualified teachers will choose the best paying districts. We will not be able to attract or retain our young teachers, who, after a few years' experience, will choose to leave and be paid as much as \$13,000 more for doing the same job somewhere else.

We all know the quality of our schools comes down to the quality of the teachers. We also know that in large part, property values in Albany rest on the quality of our schools. I await your thoughtful reply.

Victoria Sears

An uncomfortable association

It must be a rough season for the apolo-

gists in the University of California's office of community relations. Not only do they have to explain UC's refusal to grant the Depot for Creative Reuse a workable extension, but now they have to rationalize spraying herbicide on the Gill Tract right next to an elementary school and their own family student housing.

And, of course, they can't admit that both decisions seem to correlate with UC's deal with Novartis Corporation, a biotech conglomerate. Since the signing of this devil's pact, UC has forged headlong toward a future of genetic engineering and chemical agriculture. In fact, shortly after the signing, it attacked both student run programs teaching organic farming methods.

So it's hardly comforting when the College of Natural Resources, which receives the money from Novartis, "believes that there is no danger to the children" from the spraying of glysophate during school hours.

In fact, it's downright uncomfortable that the University of California has a financial interest in supporting rather than rigorously and unbiasedly testing this new and frightening technology of genetic engineering that creates crops resistant to glysophate sprays (among other frightening possibilities).

Maybe it's just a coincidence that the building from which UC is trying to evict our beloved Depot for Creative Reuse just happens to also be used for biotech research. Smell a fluorescent rat?

Matt Azzel
Berkeley

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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EDITOR • CHRIS TREADWAY

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— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

good guys

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aiwa 340-Watt Dolby Digital Home Theater Mini System

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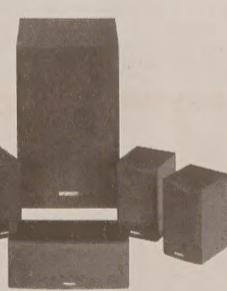
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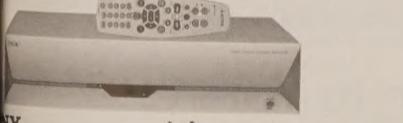
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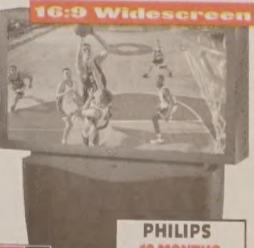
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EL CERRITO PTA NEWS

By Linda Takimoto
CORRESPONDENT

Bayside Council of PTAs

■ CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION FORMS ARE DUE NOW to Linda Takimoto, 1636 Navelier St., El Cerrito 94530.

■ Feb. 28, WAS the final deadline for all per capita dues for this academic year. Send to Melita Agbabaka, 7628 Potrero, El Cerrito 94530 ASAP.

■ March 5, Council meeting, 7:00pm in the faculty room at Pinole Middle School, 1575 Mann St., Pinole. Agenda will include presentation of a slate of officers for next year's board and updating your unit's bylaws.

Adams Middle School

■ Feb. 26 - March 2, Reading Renaissance Program recognition of "Read Across America Day" — The school goal for this week is to read at least 15,000 pages during the third period Reading time.

■ Join Adams PTA - Membership is only \$6. Checks are payable to "Adams PTA". Our next PTA project is to help sponsor a student run store open on Wednesday mornings. Please mail all checks to Adams PTA, 5000 Patterson Circle, Richmond, CA 94805.

■ The Adams library is collecting empty computer ink jet cartridges (the small ink jet cartridges - black and/or color; no laser cartridges or copier toner cartridges). All proceeds are used to purchase computer-related materials for the library computers. There is a collection buckle in the library on the third floor.

■ We have received the Albertson Community Partner cards. Anyone who shops at Albertsons can help us by using the Albertson Community Partner card. There is no cost to the member. If you are interested in receiving a card, please send a note to the Adams PTA at 5000 Patterson Circle, Richmond, CA 94805 and a card will be sent to you. We are also participating in the Target Guest Card and eScript program. If you are interested in helping, please call the PTA voice message line or send an email message to cchan2429@aol.com.

■ PTA Voice Message Line is 510-464-1360, ext 70 - Call this number to hear about upcoming events, Academy updates, minimum day

schedules and special dates.

■ PTA eMail - Weekly PTA bulletins are being sent. Any community members interested in subscribing should send their email address to Connie Chan Kucera at cchan2429@aol.com.

Castro Elementary

■ March 7, Pizza Night, 5-8pm, at Pizza Roma (located in the Safeway parking lot at Moeser and San Pablo Avenues in El Cerrito). Dine in or take out, mention Castro and 25 percent of the evenings sales will go to Castro School.

■ Fundraisers: Castro is enrolled in eScript (ID#137627554), Albertson's, Target, and SchoolPop fundraising programs. Call Peggy Wilcox at 236-0761 to find out how you can benefit Castro when you shop.

El Cerrito High

■ March 7, GRAD NITE COMMITTEE MEETING, Rm. 812, 7:30pm. The theme has been chosen, plans have been drawn, and money is being raised. The following committees still need help: construction, casino/games, food, and volunteer sign up. Be a part of providing the students of the Class of 2001 with a "Safe and Sober Grad Nite" they will always remember. What a wonderful gift for our children. Any questions, contact Vickie Nolan: nolan6@aol.com.

■ NEW SCRIP SALES: El Cerrito High School PTSAs is enrolled in the eScript program. Our group ID is 5221087. Individual members pay an amount of \$10 to register their Safeway loyalty or other credit cards with eScript. A percentage of the supporters purchases is contributed by the merchant partner to ECHS PTSAs on a monthly basis. Participating merchants are: Safeway, Andronicos, Cody's Books, Chevron, Old Navy, Eddie Bauer, and Payless Shoes. You may register online at www.escripinc.com or look for registration forms at various school events. Any questions, call Cheryl Black 527-7070/(days) or 237-1696(eve).

■ Want to be kept informed of all events, activities, tests date, college info, etc.? Join the ECHS email forum. All school notices will be emailed to you. To sign up, please email Joann Steck-Bayat at jsteckbayat@home.com. Be sure to specify that you would like to be added

to the ECHS email forum.

Harding Elementary

■ Scrip purchases - contact Holly Winter at 525-0273.

■ After School Classes include tennis, dance and drama. Call the school at 525-0273 or the El Cerrito Community Center for more details.

Portola Middle School

March 9, Pizza Night, 5-8pm, at Pizza Roma (located in the Safeway parking lot at Moeser and San Pablo Avenues in El Cerrito). Dine in or take out, mention Portola and 25% of the evenings sales will go to Portola School.

■ March 20, Bands and Choir Concert - 7:00pm in the Portola Gym.

March 26, Music Parents meeting at 6:30pm, and PTA meeting at 7:15pm in the library. Agenda items include elections for the 2001-2002 board.

March 28, Jazz bands concerts with a guest performance by Dave Black - 7:00pm in the Little Theater.

SPONSOR A MUSICAL CHAIR

Portola music families know the importance of providing a good foundation of love and support for our children. We also know the value of providing our children with a solid foundation in the arts. There are some practical, yet essential foundations that are in severe disrepair in our Music Room...the chairs. Due to constant use, hour after hour and year after year, the chairs in the music room are unbalanced and worn with age. They need to be put into retirement. We challenge our greater Portola community to help raise money for new music room chairs. A new musicians chair from Wenger Corporation costs \$60.00. There are 65 chairs to be retired. Your check may be made out to the Portola PTA Music and sent to 638 Clayton St., El Cerrito 94530. Questions or comments should be directed to Ellie 234-0400 or Joann 524-9464. All donations are tax-deductible and checks of any amount will be gratefully accepted.

Join Portola PTA - \$6 per person. Funds are used to supplement student programs and faculty needs. We also encourage you to get involved by volunteering. We look forward to meeting you. Send your check (payable to Portola PTA) to Nancy

See PTA, Page A9

ALBANY PTA NEWS

By Kay Weinstein
CORRESPONDENT

Albany High School

■ Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Ruth Gjerde at ruthg@eecs.berkeley.edu

■ March 2-4, March 9-11, Musical "West Side Story." Thurs. & Fri. 8 p.m., Sunday 4 p.m., AHS Little Theater, reserve tickets now by calling 559-6550 ext. 6588, \$7 adults, \$5 students/seniors

■ March 3, Steak Dinner & Raffle Fundraiser to benefit AHS Girls' Soccer Team, sponsored by Kensington Lions' Club at Masonic Center in El Cerrito, Seatings at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$20/adults, \$5/child's Hot Dog Dinner, Raffle Tickets: \$1 or six for \$5. To reserve tickets, call Wendy Phillips at 525-4324 or wendyphillips@mindspring.com

■ March 5, PTA Meeting, 7:15, AHS Multi-Purpose Room

■ Berkeley Bowl, Ranch 99 Market and Natural Grocery paper SCRIP for sale Monday and Friday mornings from 8:30 to 9 and 9:30 to 10 a.m. Orders can be placed in office at any time. Albertson's Community Partners Cards available at these times. Safeway and Whole Foods electronic scrip must be purchased from eScript (1-800-400-7878 or escript.com). Marin School account number is 136951780. Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 1-800-456-1032. We are currently out of Albertson's Community Partners cards. Call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782. E-mail Linda at alanhome@lmi.net

Marin Elementary School

■ Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda Okamoto at alanhome@lmi.net

■ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Homework Club, Monday-Thursday, 3:15-4:15 p.m., AMS Library. If available any day, e-mail Sara Danielson at sarad@albany.K12.ca.us

■ SCRIP Orders: If you shop at Safeway, sign up for eScript by calling 1-800-400-7878 or register online at escript.com. Old Navy is now available from eScript.

■ Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda Okamoto at alanhome@lmi.net

■ REMINDER: Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education

able from eScript. Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 1-800-456-1032. We can provide Albertson's Community Partners cards. Call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782. E-mail Linda at alanhome@lmi.net

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■ SCRIP sales: Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScript (1-800-400-7878 or escript.com). Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 1-800-456-1032. We are currently out of paper scrip from Ranch 99.

■ RECYCLE used printer cartridges from your home or office. Look for bins in the office.

to office.

Ocean View Elementary School

■ March 29, PTA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

■ SCRIP for sale in the Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScript (1-800-400-7878 or escript.com). Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 1-800-456-1032. We are currently out of paper scrip from Ranch 99.

■ March 6, Special Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Location TBA

■ March 13, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Location TBA

Online Shoppers

■ Support Albany Schools going to www.schoolpop.com to 125 merchants including Andronico's, Webvan, Amazon.com and Land's End. Get 10 percent of every purchase given to your school.

■ ALSO, DON'T FORGET SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHANTS WHO SUPPORT ALL SCHOOLS!

Items? Call Kay Weinstein at 0363 or email: kayweinstein@hoo.com

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AUSD Board of Education

Watch

PAGE A2

At their town hall meeting last Friday, Hercules city council members seemed to indicate consensus on proceeding with a study about secession regardless of the outcome of Measure G. At the same meeting, school board President George Harris also offered to present to the school board a resolution calling for such a study.

We can and should proceed with such an analysis and, until it is done, no one can legitimately answer the question that is in front of the voters.

We have a lot of hard work to do together to create the kinds of schools and school district we all want. Mea-

Albany

PAGE A2

Notice reported hearing glass break outside her home. Officers responded and discovered broken windows on a black '00 Toyota 4-runner. Windows were not seen.

On the morning of Feb. 25, officers contacted a 30-year-old man for suspicious activity. He was found to

have an outstanding warrant from Contra Costa County for possession of drugs and Failure to Appear. He was arrested, cited, and released with a Notice to Appear.

During the week of Feb. 19, officers towed five vehicles, responded to 20 false alarms, attended to two lost animals, and assisted three people who were locked out of their house or car. In the domestic arena, officers responded to 13 civil disturbances and 122 civil assists.

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The dog lobby tells us there are no bad dogs, only bad owners. But because of unscrupulous breeders and for other reasons, some dogs are born mean and get worse. Health problems turn others violent. This apparently happened to a large, older Doberman owned by friends of ours. The dog bit two

people badly, but the family kept him until he bit one of them in the face and scarred him for life. And then a guard company took the dog!

Culminating years of hard work, citizens, students, school, and city officials gathered on Tuesday to break ground for the new Richmond Mid-

dle School.

Speakers represented the broad coalition of support that has been necessary to make the dream of a new middle school come to fruition.

Richmond mayor Rosemary Corbin said, "This is a new day for Richmond and for our students. No longer will I have to say that we don't have a middle school in the 55 square miles of Richmond. More importantly, no longer will those students who can least afford it have to get on public

transportation to ride many miles to get to school."

Speaking on behalf of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, John Ziesenhause spoke to the positive economic consequences of both the construction and presence of the new school sparkling a "renaissance on upper MacDonald Avenue."

Greg Feeney of the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council pledged his group's total support to bringing in the school, "on time, under budget, and, most importantly, safely." He encouraged local residents who would like to apply for apprenticeship positions on the project to contact him directly (925-

228-0900).

With the opening this fall of the new Hercules Middle/High School and the initiation of construction of the new Richmond Middle School, we're starting to realize some long awaited dreams to reduce overcrowding on our middle and high school campuses and develop quality school facilities for heretofore underserved communities.

Glen Price is a member of the WC-CUSD school board; opinions and views expressed here are his own and do not reflect official views or positions of the school board or WC-CUSD unless otherwise noted

rium.

WCCUSD Board

March 7, Meeting - 7 p.m. in the Kennedy High School Cafeteria.

WCCUSD Calendar

March 13, District Honor Band Concert - 7 p.m. at the Richmond Auditorium.

PTA

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Tomball, Attn: Portola Membership, 1888 Terrace Dr., El Cerrito 94530.

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Perseverance brings AHS music students into the digital age

Outside funding helps realize goal of state-of-art facility

By Clare Curley
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — "This has been a long journey, but we're up and operating," Albany High School music teacher Tom Lilienthal told a group of students at a celebration last week.

The journey's destination is the school's new digital recording/music studio, for which Lilienthal spent three years seeking out grants and other funding sources.

The party Feb. 22 was the first time many parents got a chance to see first hand what it was all about.

Rhythm Bound, a group of students in the performing side of the class, played R&B tunes throughout the evening while parents were given tours of the studio where 14 students study the recording aspect of music.

Both teens and parents ate brownies and watched as three female students clad in black sang and swayed to the accompaniment of two saxo-

phones, a trumpet, a trombone, bass guitar and rhythm section.

Sean McKay gave tours of the studio where the class takes place. Shelves labeled "solos/ensembles/band/orchestra/jazz band/concert band" house countless packages of sheet music, as if to say, "we're in business."

"In the beginning we squished in about half the class," he said. The other half, those with musical experience, practiced outside the studio.

"We raised around \$30,000 for the equipment," said Lilienthal. "Many of the manufacturers either outright gave us gear or deeply discounted it so that they could "partner" in our efforts for this project."

Now, in the face of probable program cuts districtwide, this class may be in luck.

The current source of funding for Lilienthal's salary is primarily R.O.R. (county funding), with some help from the Albany district budget. Additional expenses, such as supplies and consultant fees, are covered by the Albany High School Band Boosters.

Much of the funding went toward

state-of-the-art equipment, like omnidirectional microphones and a special music computer system.

Students have learned to navigate a rack-mounting space, large remote control and tracking machines.

McKay motioned to the computer screen, explaining, "This can pinpoint mistakes in songs and replace words like a word processor."

Fluorescent waves on the scene jumped up and down like a brain scan, marking each point in a given recording.

"We have yet to delve into this aspect of digital recording," Lilienthal added.

During breaks, a string quartet the students had recorded on a CD filled the room via speakers mounted on the wall.

Other students are more drawn to the musical side of the class.

Alex Burr, for one, says he's not into recording music as he is singing and playing the guitar.

Another student, Michael Martin, who took guitar lessons with Lilienthal, said music is just a hobby for now.

But many participants talked

about how the program has changed their career aspirations and gave them a sense of what job options are available to them in the music industry.

Bonnie Lawrence was among the parents observing from the sidelines.

"I'm thrilled the class exists at all," she said. "It's redirected my son's thinking about what college he wants to go to."

The class has really been in place since September, years after Lilienthal began planning for the program, but last week's grand opening waited until students had sunk their teeth into the new program.

The teacher thanked local busi-

nesses that supported the endeavor, particularly SFmusician.com, which raised \$4,000 to help jump-start the program.

Now he depends on continuous funding sources like this year's AHS Instrumental Music annual fundraiser, Groove Fest III, on March 16-17.

On Friday, March 16 at 7 p.m. in the Albany High School Little Theater, the Groove Fest will open with Lilienthal, a bassist, and friends featuring the return of Albany blues guitarist/vocalist Bobby Simmons.

Members of his group have recorded and toured with Tom Fogerty of Creedence Clearwater Re-

vival and performed at Shirelles, Drifters and others. They have performed at Concord and Monterey.

On Saturday, March 17, the show will open with Ident/Keyboard player and Roll Band, ending with a performance by Rhythm Band.

Tickets will be sold at \$15 for students and \$20 for adults.

"This is our primary fund raiser for the entire year, so we're going to sell out," Lilienthal said.

way that they worked in a creative way to do all these projects.

Abelson cited the addition of accessible playgrounds, ramps and accessibility improvements at the city and Albany-El Cerrito Access, a non-profit organization that works to promote access in the two communities.

"City staff incorporated the group into their accessibility planning and processes and so forth — they were working together," Abelson said. "That's why they won, because of the

Award

FROM PAGE A1

both children with disabilities and parents with disabilities; the city's library equipment was improved to accommodate persons with visual impairments; the community swim center improvements include barrier-free access, pool lift, locker room, shower and restroom accessibility. As a result, the city is a more welcoming environment for adults and children with disabilities."

Science

FROM PAGE A1

of Flowers) in Golden Gate Park.

This year's local winners were:

El Cerrito High School

11th grade — Mathematics and computers: Kit San Chung, "Exploring Nonintegral Powers," first place; Genny Pang, "Lissajous Figures," second place; and Travis Stadelman, "Spectrum of the Pythagorean Theorem," second place. Physical science: Lydia Chilton, "To Ward Energy Self-Reliance," second place; Kai Jye Lou, "Wavebreakers," first place; Christopher Negoro, "Dynamics of a Bouncing Basketball," second place; Stephanie Teng, "Frequencies of Musical Instruments and Mouthpieces," third place; and Nancy Tsai, "Energy Transfer in Water Waves," third place. 12th grade — Physical science: Alexander Manetas, "Magnetic Field Shielding," first place.

The council has not announced where the money will be made up, except to say it will come out of the city's recreational fund.

Budget talks will come back to the table later this month. One possibility is to raise the fees of the city's "self-sufficient" classes like flower arranging and yoga.

Portola Middle School

Seventh grade — Behavioral science: Sophie Mayer, "Is What You See, What You Taste?" second place; and Victoria Rothacher, "Sun Sign," second place. Biology: Eythor Björnsson, "Does Tobacco Affect Plants?" third place; Christina Lee, "Do Different Types of Water Solutions Affect Plant Growth?" third place; Alex Pfeifer-Rosenblum, "The Effect of Runoff Pollutants on Pond Water," fourth place; Stacey Tanaka, "You Are Getting on My Nerves!" first place; and Troy Viseneau,

"Coke Rules, Sprite Drollos" second place. Mathematics and computers: Jared Ishikata, "Probably Not," second place. Physical Science: Lucia Carrousel, "Which Battery Gives You the Most Energy for Your Money?" third place; Bronwen Harrison-Shermoen, "Science Sublime" third place; Brett Hayashida, "Which Bridge is Strongest?" third place; Madeline Meason, "Oil and Water" third place; and Georgia Tapp, "Does Drinking Warm and Cold Liquids Affect Your Singing Voice?" second place.

Eighth grade — Behavioral science: Jenny Lacy, "Is There a Relationship Between Vehicle Color and Speeding?" third place; and Daryl Mishima, "Do You React Faster to Sight or Sound?" second place. Biology: David Ball, "Light + Color = Plant Growth" first place; Kyson Buntuwong, "Which Antibacterial Hand Cleanser is the Most Effective in Removing Bacteria?" third place; Philip Dutton, "Backyard Egg Production" second place; and Sarah Guthrie, "Do Worms Affect the Growth of Radishes?" fourth place. Mathematics and computers: Caitlin Kakigi, "Bizarre Balloons Benefit Buchanan" first place; and Mitchell Thompson, "Lefty, the One-Eyed Robotic Traveller," second place. Physical science: Allison Dedrick, "Removing Chloramines from Tap Water" third place; Michael Jaffe, "Polarized Arrows" third place; Shireen Khambatta, "Model Rocket Design" second place; Andrew Klaassen, "Vibrations of a Guitar" second place; and Devyn Wells, "Optimizing a Solenoid Magnet" second place.

Adams Middle School

Seventh grade — Biology: Kohnen Ryan, "Growing Sweet Peas"; fourth place; Shireen Khambatta, "Radishes in Different Soil," second place; and Rachael Kara, "Pot or Not?" fourth place. Science: Lauren Martinez, "Is the Birdie Baby" third place; Kennedy High School, "How Acid Works" third place; Garcia, "Will It Stick?" second place; Artemio Guerra, "Picture Perfect," third place; Sara Mendez, "Is the Medicine?" third place; and Smith, "How Acid Works" fourth place.

11th grade — Biology: Pauline Sprout or Not to Sprout?" third place; and Tavia Terry, "Quick Snack," fourth place. Physical science: Holly Hollinquist, "Exchange Pots," second place; and Thanh Nguyen, "Rice" fourth place.

12th grade — Mathematics and computers: Greg Jones, "The Math Maniac," fourth place. Physical science: Ayayd, "Bottled Water So Good," second place; Gurjeet Kaur, "What's in the Gum Gets Bigger?" third place; Khaitnik, "Pendulum," third place; Salina Long, "What Were the Small," fourth place; and Zan "Oil in Oil Out," third place.

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Cafe

FROM PAGE A1

Still, Thomsen told the teens and adult volunteers that she would like to help out the cafe, but that what they were requesting was unprecedented.

"If we're going to support a non-profit, we need to set up policy, a budget and a process, then have funds dispersed as a committee decides," she insisted.

She also stressed the importance of students learning about finances, knowledge that raising the money themselves would provide.

Councilman Jon Ely sided with her, pointing to the city's underpaid staff as an example of how tight funds already are.

Mari and Okawachi, however, both admit to having a soft spot for the enterprise, and called for making an exception to the rules.

One of the few residents opposed

to the contribution was local activist Evan Flavell, who worried about the implications of CLA money "intermingling" with the cafe.

Also, resident Dario Meniketti said he objected to the move purely on principle, since other non-profits like the YMCA and the Little League are expected to be self-sufficient.

The city typically does not make a habit of such donations.

A city staff report reads, "The City Council does not have a policy on donations or to support for not-for-profit activities or programs."

But it does support certain nonprofits, like the Albany Police Activities League (PAL) and a local preschool.

It also pays a hefty sum for an after-school teen center geared toward junior high age students.

Diprisco, who gave a somewhat unexpected swing vote in favor of the cafe, said the CLA report was the convincing factor.

"My initial reservations were con-

cerned more with information about CLS, the track record of the cafe and crime," he said. No real problems have been reported at the cafe as of yet.

Its new product line also boosted his opinion.

Though some questioned how many teens regularly frequent the place, weekend events have attracted as many as 60 people, said Albany Prevention Council co-chair Kristina Osborn, a full-time volunteer.

The cafe has exhibited art shows, hosted improv, screened a film made by high schoolers, and recently added nachos, sandwiches, smoothies and chicken teriyaki to the menu.

The council has not announced where the money will be made up, except to say it will come out of the city's recreational fund.

Budget talks will come back to the table later this month. One possibility is to raise the fees of the city's "self-sufficient" classes like flower arranging and yoga.

needs to know, what they want to do about this thing," she said.

At next week's council meeting, city staff will present plans to establish a procedure by which different groups can apply for city sponsorship of their events. He suggested that the council endorse the event without making a money commitment and develop a more comprehensive policy that addresses Brusatori's concerns.

Ma said that when she went to the city's commissions and City Council, she was only doing as instructed by city officials. "I followed what I was told to do," she said. Ma also said that sometime in the future the council will need to decide what its role will be in future sister cities events. "We need to know, and the City Council

Parade

FROM PAGE A1

use of the Community Center: The hall rents for \$104 an hour to private groups, \$65 an hour to non-profit organizations and \$25 an hour to city-sponsored non-profit groups.

"I'm comfortable with supporting the event in the sense that it's a swell thing; I'm not comfortable with writing a check for the third year," Brusatori said.

Councilwoman Janet Abelson said the problem is that the council lacks a prioritization process by which different groups can apply for city sponsorship of their events. "It seems to me that is something that we need to work out; we can't ask Dr. Ma to

work that out," she said. "We need to work out that process ourselves."

Councilman Mark Friedman said the establishment of a city arts commission would be helpful for such city-sponsorship requests, adding, "That is the appropriate place for requests such as these." He suggested that the council endorse the event without making a money commitment and develop a more comprehensive policy that addresses Brusatori's concerns.

Ma said that when she went to the city's commissions and City Council, she was only doing as instructed by city officials. "I followed what I was told to do," she said. Ma also said that sometime in the future the council will need to decide what its role will be in future sister cities events. "We need to know, and the City Council

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Real Estate & Home

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclarion, The Piedmonter

March 2, 2001

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B6]
Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B10]

High-peaked gable sets Alameda East End home apart

"You will fall in love with this wonderful home in Alameda's East End," says Kane of Kane & Associates.

"Whether you choose to use this property as a two-family home, invest in it as two units or convert it back to a four-bedroom, two-unit home, you will find your visit quite enjoyable."

The home is currently a legal duplex; the upstairs unit has a living room, formal dining room and a large eat-in kitchen with one bedroom at the rear.

"Beautiful wide plank oak hardwood floors in the living and dining rooms, charming built-in cabinets and new bedroom carpeting are featured in the lower unit," says Kane. There is also a one-car garage, a full basement, new window coverings and a freshly painted interior."

The property is listed as a historic home in the city of Alameda. Originally there were two arched doorways from the living and dining rooms leading to the stairway going to the second floor.

The floor plan is still in its original condition in the twin home next door. Bids on cost for conversion to a charming four-bedroom home are available for interested buyers.

The home will be open for viewing this Saturday and Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. For information call the Kane & Associates listing agents Jerry Nussbaum at 522-0968 or see Kane at 523-6058.



DENNIS EVANOSKY

Why should you consider refinancing your mortgage?

As anticipation runs high that mortgage interest rates will be considerably reduced, millions wonder if they should refinance their home mortgages.

There are two broad reasons to refinance: The first is to reduce your interest rate, term of your loan and (possibly) the payment or to fix an adjustable rate mortgage (called a no-cash-out refinance).

The second is to use some of the equity in the property for home improvement, debt consolidation, investment (called a cash-out refinance). Whatever the reason, the first concern should be to determine the costs justify the results?

These costs include the loan origination points (a point is 1 percent of the loan amount and is also known as "prepaid interest" — the higher the points, the lower the interest rate) and fees for processing paperwork: the credit report, escrow, title, underwriting, drawing documents, funding and assorted miscellaneous escrow functions.

Excluding the loan origination points, a good rule of thumb is that the non-recurring closing costs should run about 1.5 percent of the loan amount for loans of \$150,000 and higher.

The percentage is somewhat higher for smaller loans and somewhat lower for loans greater than \$400,000.

So what about all those advertisements for "no-cost" loans on television and in the newspapers? A no-cost loan simply carries a high enough interest rate so that the lender essentially finances the costs over the life of the loan.

Mortgage Madness



By
Karen Senzig

The borrower will have a loan amount equal to the principal payoff of the current mortgage(s), but the interest rate will be much higher than when the borrower finances the costs by adding the loan costs to the principal payoff and increasing the new loan amount.

Surprisingly, as long as there is adequate equity in the property, financing the costs obtain a lower interest rate and increasing the new loan amount will reduce the payment over a no-cost loan.

The general formula for figuring if paying the non-recurring closing costs makes sense as part of the refinance is easy.

The costs are divided by the payment savings to equal the number of months it will take before you break even and have paid off the costs.

Let's look at a borrower with loan balance of \$250,000, reduced from the original amount of \$260,000. The current mortgage is a 30-year amortized adjustable-rate

see SENZIG on page B2

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Riding a piece of history: the Tilden Park Carousel

The call came early in the morning, on the day I was preparing to leave for a Greyhound Bus tour of the East Coast during the Bicentennial Summer of 1976. It was from the director of the National Registry of Historic Places, at the Department of the Interior in Washington D.C. He was calling in response to an application for the National Register for a very unusual piece of history; a 1911 carousel.

A few weeks earlier, I had filled out all of the paperwork to nominate the Tilden Park Carousel for inclusion on the National Register, to help save it from imminent demolition. So I was pleasantly surprised to hear from the director already, less than two weeks after he had received the nomination.

"I just wanted to tell you the good news right away," he said cheerfully. "We decided in our meeting this morning to move your nomination up to the head of the list, because of its urgent nature. We just voted on it, and the carousel was approved unanimously. Congratulations, the Tilden Park Carousel is now a National Historic Site."

After my initial euphoria, I expressed my sincere thanks for the prompt work that the National Register committee had done. Then I asked the director what it was that had made him feel the carousel was important enough to deserve such special treatment.

"That's simple," he answered. "I'm planning to take my family out to the Bay Area for a vacation this summer, and I want my kids to be able to enjoy that carousel. After all, how many historic landmarks can you ride on?"

I have remembered that conversation vividly ever since that day, especially the director's comment about historic landmarks that one can ride. There are only a handful of such structures in the Bay Area, but

In 1948, this venerable piece of folk art from the golden age of carousels was sold, disassembled, and moved to Tilden Park in the Berkeley hills, where it has remained ever since.

each one enhances the quality of life for the people living in the surrounding area. And thus, these unique "moving pieces of history" increase the property values of all of the homes in the vicinity, since they contribute to the greater enjoyment of family life for local residents.

The story of the carousel in Tilden Park is an especially inspiring one. It combines the tale of a hard fought, ultimately successful historic preservation battle, with a colorful example of Edwardian Era Americana that is literally an irreplaceable piece of folk art.

The neighborhoods adjoining Tilden Park are the North Berkeley hills and the town of Kensington, an unincorporated part of Contra Costa County. The houses in these districts are mostly single family homes, occupied by middle class families with children ranging in age from toddlers to high school students.

This is clearly the main reason that there was such a spontaneous outcry when the private company that owned the carousel decided to stop operating it in the mid 1970s. That outcry grew to alarm, and then determined action, when the East Bay Regional Park District's Board of Directors refused at first to buy this charming piece of history and operate it as a publicly owned facility.

The Tilden Park Carousel was built in 1911 by the nationally renowned firm of Herschell Spielman Company in New York City. It was housed for many years in a wooden

shed near the Griffith Park Observatory in Los Angeles, where children and adults came from all over Southern California to enjoy riding on it for nearly two generations.

Then in 1948, this venerable piece of folk art from the golden age of carousels was sold, disassembled, and moved to Tilden Park in the Berkeley hills, where it has remained ever since. The shed that houses it there was copied from the one in Griffith Park, and it has an unusual, nearly geodesic dome shape to its roof.

There are 40 wooden animals lining the original outer rows of the machine, (several newer animals were added in later years). These figures comprise no fewer than 14 varieties of hand-carved, gaily painted creatures, both real and mythical, including giraffes, frogs, horses, deer, tigers, cats, rabbits roosters and dragons.

Besides the wooden animals, there are also two band organs that grind out Ragtime Era music for patrons to enjoy as they go whirling around on this fantasy creation. The one in the middle is the original one, which is beneath brightly painted panels, depicting scenes of rugged seascapes and romantic landscapes.

The other band organ stand to the side of the carousel, and is about ten feet high and fifteen feet wide. It was built in 1910, and was brought to Tilden Park separately. It is decorated with ornate, gilded scrollwork, and in the center is a miniature painted wooden figure of a female band leader dressed in Edwardian Era costume.

This joyous creation was threatened with dismantling and removal in 1976. The East Bay Regional Park's Board of Directors decided that they did not want to spend the minimum cost of \$25,000 that was estimated for deferred maintenance on the carousel and band organs.

They also objected to the ongoing cost of maintaining the old carousel in its original, historic condition. They suggested that a brand new carousel, with molded plastic or

Owning A Piece of History



By Mark A. Wilson

aluminum animals, would be an ideal replacement for "outworn wooden animals."

Happily, a grass roots, East Bay-wide organization was quickly formed to fight this plan. It was called the Committee to Save the Carousel. I joined this committee soon after it was formed, and attended several of its meetings in members living rooms.

We got thousands of East Bay citizens' signatures on petitions, began a fundraising drive which collected a large portion of the money need to restore the carousel, and held public rallies near the carousel, some of which were covered by various local television stations.

Finally, after months of mounting public pressure, and then its official designation as a National Historic Place, the park's board of directors agreed to purchase and restore the original carousel. This result proved conclusively that, with enough dedication and public support, a historic preservation effort can succeed to everyone's benefit.

The Tilden Park Carousel is located in the center of Tilden Park. It can be reached by going north on Arlington Avenue Marin, then turning right on to Spruce Street, then going along Spruce to Canyon Road, then down Canyon to Valley, and finally right on Valley until you see the signs for the carousel.

The carousel is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, and daily during summer vacation time. For 50 cents per ride, there is no greater thrill for children of all ages.

Mark A. Wilson is a Realtor and architectural historian who works at Prudential California Realty's Albany office. He can be reached at 510-273-9383. Visit him on the Web at www.topbroker.com/wilson

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A look around the East Bay real estate community

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ATTENTION PUBLIC

Alameda Inforum Meeting

The public is always welcome at the Inforum Meeting. The Inforum is sponsored by the Alameda Association of Realtors. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 13 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The location is the Garden Isle Community Center on Melrose Avenue in Alameda. The topic of discussion is "The Energy Crisis: How It Will Affect Alameda". General Manager Junona Jonas and Marketing Manager Bill Garvine of Alameda Power & Telecommunications will be the keynote speakers.

For more information contact Connie Hanna of Harbor Bay Realty at 510-814-4814.

Real Estate Seminar

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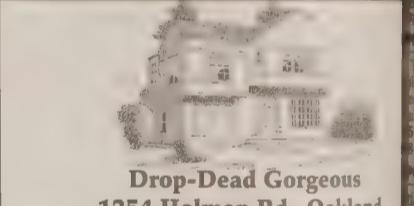
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On the House

- Paneling is a relatively clean process.
- It doesn't require a lot of skill, and only a few tools are needed. Granted, there are some types of paneling that are very thick and difficult to install, but most lighter-weight types can be installed onto 8- or 9-foot-tall walls in no time.

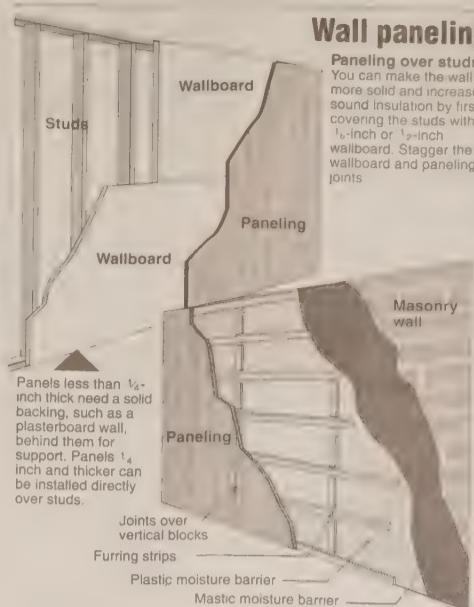
Do it the right way

First, clear the room or move all the furniture to the middle. Next, remove all the baseboard, door trim (casings) and crown molding. A flat pry bar and hammer make light work of this task. Remove these items carefully so that they can be reused.

Use a level or a plumb bob to draw a perfectly vertical line anywhere on the wall. If the line aligns with the stud layout within the wall, attaching the paneling with nails will be a breeze. (More about that later.) Measure from this line to the corners at both ends of the wall (top, center and bottom). If the three measurements are not equal, it means that the corners are crooked and that the paneling might have to be trimmed to match. Although corner trim usually covers such irregularities, there are times when trimming becomes necessary.

If the paneling is too tall, be sure to cut the bottom edge rather than the top. Whereas the bottom of the paneling is usually covered with baseboard, the top often is bare. Nailing into studs gives a good result, yet a glued installation often works just as well. We suggest both. If the reference line was properly centered on the stud layout, there is a good chance that every paneling joint will fall on a stud allowing full nailing at the joints.

Unless there is a specific reason to the contrary, always install sheet paneling vertically. This reduces the number of joints, yielding a more



Wall paneling

Paneling over studs
You can make the wall more solid and increase sound insulation by first covering the studs with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch or $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch wallboard. Stagger the wallboard and paneling joints.

Over concrete or concrete block
Apply a coat of asphalt mastic (with or without plastic film over it) as a vapor barrier. Attach horizontal 1-by-2 furring strips every 16 inches. Attach vertical furring blocks between the horizontal strips at 48-inch intervals. Lay out the paneling so that the joints fall over these vertical blocks. Once the support system is in place, attach the paneling with either nails or adhesive.

Compared to painting and wallpapering, we think paneling is easier because it's a more "carpenter friendly" project. No drips, no spills, no tears.

against the ceiling holding one edge next to, and in exact alignment with, your vertical reference mark. Paneling nails (colored to match the paneling) eliminate the need to putty holes and are nearly invisible. Nailing into studs gives a good result, yet a glued installation often works just as well. We suggest both. If the reference line was properly centered on the stud layout, there is a good chance that every paneling joint will fall on a stud allowing full nailing at the joints.

Unless there is a specific reason to the contrary, always install sheet paneling vertically. This reduces the number of joints, yielding a more professional result. If your wall height is greater than 8 feet, look into 9- or 10-foot-long sheets. With paneling, fewer joints are better.

Next comes baseboard and door trim. Install your door trim before beginning the baseboard. Your paneled wall is now thicker. Therefore, the door jambs no longer align with the wall surface.

Here you will have to fur out the door jamb by adding a piece of wood, causing the jamb to align again with the wall.

With the casings in place, the baseboard can be reinstalled

see PANELING on page B4



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Tech Faire 2001 on the horizon

By Bobbie Reid
CORRESPONDENT

Tech Faire 2001 is about to launch. If you have "The Right Stuff" then join the crew and soar into the multi-faceted world of Hi-Tech. The journey begins Monday, March 26 and completes its orbit on Friday, March 30.

"Shuttle crews" of the Alameda, Delta, Oakland and West Contra Costa Associations of Realtors have combined efforts to promote and sponsor this event. Greg Fujita of Harbor Bay Realty in Alameda is the event Chairperson (Commander).

Training and a show

There will be five days of training for real estate professionals. The purpose is to educate Realtors on today's computer technology relating to the industry.

Tech Faire 2001 concludes on Friday with a vendor trade show. The fair will be held in the Pavilion at Scott's Sea Food Restaurant in Oakland's Jack London Square.

Training begins on Monday, March 26 with "CRS 206 - Using Today's Technology." A department of real estate accredited course designed to help earn a CRS designation.

Two other, two-day training sessions are scheduled. "Beginners' Hands-On" is suggested for those with limited computer experience who want to learn more.

"Tech Retreat II" is geared toward those agents who have

their own laptops and want to learn all the bells and whistles available for effective business and marketing use.

On Friday, March 30 a variety of hour-long seminars are available. The sessions are designed to give an overview of many computer basics needed in the marketplace.

The Vendor Trade Faire begins Friday at 10 a.m. and is open until 4 p.m. Complimentary refreshments and a no-host bar are offered at noon. Admission is free.

Vendors wanted

Tech Faire 2001 is looking for technology-based vendors. Vendor Booth and Product Workshop opportunities are still available. There are also sponsorship opportunities that promise a lot of bang for your buck.

The fair will attract real estate professionals from throughout the East Bay. There are four levels of sponsorship offered and each provides sponsor recognition and more.

Don't let this starship launch without you. To sign up contact your local association.

For general information call the Alameda Association of Realtors at 510-523-7229. For vendor and sponsor information call Donna Smyth of North American Title at 510-561-1477 or e-mail at dsmym@natic.com.

Bobbie Reid is a freelance writer and columnist. She has a California real estate license and has been active in the real estate industry since 1988.

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CHRISTIE'S
GREAT ESTATES

The 'cute factor' gets them every time

Looking back: True experience number 245 from June 1998

It occurs to me that maybe I never said all there is to say about fixing up houses for sale. On a number of occasions I've urged would-be sellers to clean and fix and polish their houses, make them spare and clean and appealing.

This is because many buyers want to buy something with maximum appeal. They are willing to pay more for a house that charms them, one that they can move into without further ado and so, in many cases, the seller comes out ahead after fixing.

The buyers we are talking about here are abundant. Cute and charming houses are bustling with lookers at Sunday open houses. Very often these days, three or six or even 15 of those lookers write offers in an attempt to buy these houses. Prices are driven up; sellers and agents are amazed and impressed.

"It's that cute factor," agents say. Houses that show well, particularly those professionally staged, capture people, cause them to imagine living real life in what is actually a stage set.

Plump couches, spanking clean and white; multilayered duvet, comforter, shams and sheets; a blowzy bouquet (but nothing else) on a long, sleek granite counter. All of these are inviting, particularly because so much is missing. There is no TV in sight, no toaster or crumbs, no stacks of anything. There isn't much furniture either.

I get sucked in all the time. I look at these houses and embrace them. I want where I live to look like them, which it doesn't. If I had nothing but money, I'd buy one of the fantasy houses and move in. When it got tatty, I'd do it again.

But not all buyers are the same and that's the part I think I haven't said before. Clients of ours have told us that staged houses put them off. "Too yuppie," said one, and another told us, "I guess that's the kind of house everyone wants but it isn't for me."

I think these buyers don't trust these houses to be true; they see the fantasy and it makes them uncomfortable. Now isn't that interesting?

One young woman client has said about several houses we took her to, "I'd like to have had this one before they did anything." This happened enough that we finally caught on: We rejected houses we might have shown her because they looked too good and began to concentrate instead on needy houses which she finds more to her liking. I think what she finds satisfying is akin to pawing through clothes at a secondhand store or searching a back corner of an antique shop: she is hoping, perhaps expecting, to find a treasure missed by others and feel rich for it.

There are also people who go out of their way to find and buy major fixers. We've certainly pointed out to these people on occasion that it doesn't always make economic sense to buy them. By the time the roof and foundation are fixed, plus the electrical and the kitchen and so forth, the buyer might better have paid more for something in better shape to begin with. But logic doesn't necessarily mitigate passion.

I had a fascinating conversation with an agent friend whose client had just won a bidding war on a house I thought was dreadful. The foundation was gone, as was the (completely empty) kitchen, and everything was dirty and worn out. Worse, as far as I could see, this particular house had little going for it even when it was new and whole. And so, I asked why the client had bought it.

My friend said he had no idea. The buyer had never owned a house before. He'd met her some months prior when she was thinking of buying a condo — something with no maintenance that she could move right into. He showed her a few condos, then she drifted away. There was no contact for quite awhile until suddenly she'd called to say she had found her dream house. She'd seen this wreck of a house and wanted it.

The agent was astonished to learn of what her dreams were made. Because of competition for the house from a number of other dreamers, they offered to pay more than asking price, and she got it. I know nothing more about what happened after that.

Are you thinking you might save yourself a lot of trouble and sell your house just as it is? Does this idea hold great appeal? I have to tell you that while it might work, it might not. It is surprising how much more money you can probably get if, for example, your house is painted and clean.

Unless you happen to have a severely distressed property, one that cosmetics will not help much, you are probably going to sell for a higher price by appealing to the largest group of buyers out there: the seekers of clean and pretty.

But there are circumstances, and maybe these are yours, where selling as is — broken, ailing, full and all — will be to your advantage. Ask a good agent to look at your house. You will know what the good agent is, at least initially, because he or she will take the time to give consideration to your individual situation.

The agent will ask about your abilities, resources and needs, will look carefully at the house and its problems and make recommendations, as well as guesstimates of sale prices.

True Experiences



By Tarpoff and Talbert

The guesstimates may be wrong, however. Because the number of people who want to buy fixers and other "non-cute" houses is smaller, it can be tricky to predict the ultimate sale price and how long it will take to get it. "Cute" houses are easier. It's usually possible to arrive at a price that they will surely sell for. Then, if there are multiple offers, the price can be higher still.

Anet Tarpoff and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patatnet@lmi.net or by phone at 510-653-2050.

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101 Beechwood Drive New Listing \$2,349,000
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 Sun filled fabulous 3BR/3.5BA contemporary w/sparkling Bay views & many loft-like features. High ceilings, industrial windows, stainless appliances & decks. Debbi DiMaggio

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191 St. James Drive, Piedmont \$799,000
 Spacious 3-story traditional. 4+ BR/3.5BA, updated eat-in kitchen, large formal rooms, family room & study. Private rear decks with hot tub. Karen Starr

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 A charming 2BR/1.5BA Spanish Mediterranean w/updated kitchen, cozy office, spacious rec/media room, level landscaped yard & hardwood floors. Sherry Benninger

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 Newer Montclair construction, large parklike garden, 4BR including master suite/2.5 BA, chef's kitchen/family room w/fireplace & formal dining room. Kurt Buchholz

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 The classic Italianate two-story traditional home in beautiful Crocker Highlands. Wonderful architectural details throughout. 3BR/1.5BA. James Garcia

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 In a very unique and private setting in Piedmont you will find this 1+BR/1BA cottage situated on over an acre of gorgeous land with mature oaks. Angela Wei Grubb

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Piedmont - By Appointment

Piedmont Traditional \$729,000
 Great location, close to schools and easy commute. Wonderful spacious home. 5BR (one could be a den), 2BA and delightful garden. Katherine Cooper

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 Rarely does a level home in Wildwood Gardens become available, especially one with such lovely filtered views and easy outdoor access. Katherine Cooper

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Cosmopolitan European Style \$1,539,000
 Modernist masterpiece w/stunning panoramic SF views. Approx. 5600 sq. ft. of open spaces, lofty terraces & balconies. 3BR suites, 3-car garage & large studio. Susanne Paul

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 103 AMITO AVE. (Open 2-4:30) Leonard presents this exciting new Mediterranean situated in the beautiful Claremont Hills. Bay & canyon views. 4BD/4BA, FDR, formal room, master suite & multi-level bonus. Country/chic living. Dee Knowland x318

MONTCLAIR \$725,000
 104 DRAKE DR. (Open 2-4:30) Spacious & contemporary conveniently located to village. Enjoy 3000+/- sq. ft. with expansive Bay views and level yard. 5BD/4BA. Living room with vaulted ceilings & fireplace. Family room with fireplace and built-ins. Jeffrey Himmel x307

MONTCLAIR \$710,000
 SKYLINE BLVD. (Open 2-4:30) Spacious & bright 5-BD/4BA contemporary. Large family room, formal room & deck provide for both living & dining enjoyment. Also features a law unit with separate entrance. Sandi x314 & Dick Cohen x308

OAKLAND HILLS \$529,000
 580 ELYSIAN FIELDS (Open 1-4:00) Beautifully situated overlooking a golf course in the Oakland Hills. 3BD/2.5BA. The family room has vaulted ceiling, excellent window placement, hardwood floors and a fireplace. Michelle Miller x335

PIEDMONT \$545,000
 415 MORAGA AVE. (Open 2-4:30) Traditional style with natural woods in living room & dining room. 3+plus bedrooms, 2 full baths. Office or den space. Francis Heath x357

OAKLAND HILLS \$529,000
 580 ELYSIAN FIELDS (Open 1-4:00) Beautifully situated overlooking a golf course in the Oakland Hills. 3BD/2.5BA. The family room has vaulted ceiling, excellent window placement, hardwood floors and a fireplace. Michelle Miller x335

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Open Sunday

OAKLAND HILLS \$550,000
 5247 SADDLE BROOK DR. (Open 2-4:30) Attractive and lovely all-level home beautifully situated on a corner lot featuring 4BD/2.5BA, family room with brick fireplace, custom fireplace in spacious living room, updated kitchen. Rosalie Woods x324

GRANDLAKE \$469,000
 488 FAIRBANKS AVE. (Open 2-4:30) Conveniently located, this fine 3+BD/2+BA home features living room with fireplace and original built-ins, formal dining room and updated kitchen. Carolyn Jones x339

OAKLAND HILLS \$450,000
 668 CRESTMONT DR. (Open 2-4:30) This wonderful home boasts designer paint choices and crown moldings. 3+BD/3BA and family room which opens out to a large level and private garden. Anne Feste x371

PIEDMONT \$325,000
 7222 SAYER DR. (Open 2-4:30) Architecturally unique and built on a large lot in 1988, this 1BD/1.5BA has light, views and privacy. Decks, patio with spa tub and level yard area. Hardwood floors, built-ins, central vacuum. 2-car detached garage. Donna Costella x355

MONTCLAIR \$325,000
 7222 SAYER DR. (Open 2-4:30) Architecturally unique and built on a large lot in 1988, this 1BD/1.5BA has light, views and privacy. Decks, patio with spa tub and level yard area. Hardwood floors, built-ins, central vacuum. 2-car detached garage. Donna Costella x355

*New Listing!**By Appointment*

PIEDMONT \$4,950,000
 Gracious English Manor house located on one of Piedmont's most prestigious streets. Majestic trees, approx. two-thirds acre of manicured gardens, cobblestone paths & pristine pool surround this historic family estate. Helen Danahal x356 & Charlotte Boyle x370

OAKLAND \$150,000
 STEINMETZ LOT Just Listed! Downslope SF view lot. Over 1/3 acre. Private with mature oaks. Patricia Scott x315

PIEDMONT Price upon request
 Enjoy panoramic Bay views from most rooms! 4+ bedrooms/4+ baths. Helen Danahal x356 & Charlotte Boyle x370

PIEDMONT \$2,195,000
 Live in your own 5BD/4+BA chalet with filtered Bay views, pool, spa, & sauna. Custom built and maintained by original owners, this rare property abounds with redwoods, oaks & pines. Charlotte Boyle x370

RIDGEMONT \$929,000
 Outstanding! Approx .66 acres. 4BD/3BA, including luxurious master suite with private retreat. Updated kitchen. Glorious canyon and Bay vistas. Robyn Mohr x310

By Appointment

ROCKRIDGE \$499,000
 Stylish contemporary. 2+BD/1.5BA. Extra large lot. Nancy Norman x373

MONTCLAIR \$459,000
 Dramatic 2BD/2BA mid-century modern! Golden Gate view and expansive gardens. Jeffrey Himmel x307

OAKLAND \$435,000
 Unique home with picturesque SF/Bay views and nestled in a country-like setting. Diane Earl McCann x352

OAKLAND \$150,000
 STEINMETZ LOT Just Listed! Downslope SF view lot. Over 1/3 acre. Private with mature oaks. Patricia Scott x315

Coming Soon

PIEDMONT \$1,285,000
 Best value! Best location! Newer four bedroom, three & a half baths. Beautiful hill views. Dee & Joe Knowland x318

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,285,000
 Newly decorated ranch home. Three bedrooms, two & a half baths. Superb outdoor living. Rosalie Woods x324

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,285,000
 Best value! Best location! Newer four bedroom, three & a half baths. Beautiful hill views. Dee & Joe Knowland x318

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,285,000
 Newly decorated ranch home. Three bedrooms, two & a half baths. Superb outdoor living. Rosalie Woods x324

PIEDMONT AVENUE \$395,000
 Classic 1920's bungalow. Three bedrooms, one bath. Very desirable location! Teri Carlisle x305

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 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, basement
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**4001 EVERETT AVE.**

Special 5 bedroom, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath upstairs, plus 2 bedrooms, 1 bath up-pair. Formal dining, great Glenview location.

Offered at \$459,000

For further information contact

Amberson McCulloch

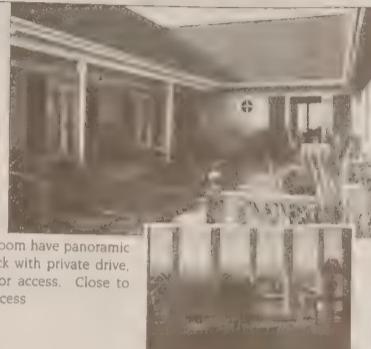
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**NEW LISTING
Sweeping Bay Views
and Privacy****193 FLORENCE IN UPPER ROCKRIDGE**

This beautiful one-level custom-designed home with private setting offers breathtaking views of the Bay Bridge, Golden Gate Bridge and San Rafael Bridge. Sited on 1/3 acre this 7-year old home on level lot allows easy access to living quarters. World-class views from living room, fireplace and built-in bookshelves open to private courtyard. Beautiful sunlit kitchen and adjoining dining room have panoramic bay views. 3+ bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths. Home set back with private drive, rear gardens and courtyard. 2-car garage with interior access. Close to schools, public transportation and easy freeway access. \$929,000

**Open Sunday, March 4th**Prudential
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Residence (510) 654-6878

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Located in the prestigious Claremont area of Berkeley, this classic home offers warmth, charm and integrity. With leaded glass windows, French doors, hardwood floors and crystal chandeliers, this will become a favorite gathering place of family and friends. From its lovely kitchen/great room, to the guesthouse set in beautiful and tranquil gardens you will find a haven at the end of a busy day. Convenient to BART and shopping, this is livability at its best.

\$1,295,000

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155 Holman Rd.....\$589,000

A 10+ Home! Tastefully updated 2BD/2BA, family room, stunning kitchen, granite counter & wet bar. New deck & new roof. Open 1-3 p.m.

Nader Davari

FIRST OPEN

575 Balfour Ave.....\$575,000

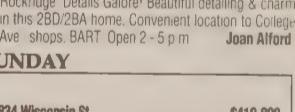
Contemporary Classic. Beautiful marble floors, updated kitchen and bathrooms. Great view, decks, level backyard. Open 2 - 5 p.m.

Jack Brenneman

320 Shafter Ave.....\$479,000

Classic Craftsman. Renovated kitchen & baths make this charming home the perfect 2BD/1.5BA garage & yard! Open 2 - 4:30 p.m.

George Karsant

OPEN SUNDAY

3834 Wisconsin St.....\$419,000

Laurel. Duplex with Bay View. 2 bedroom & 1 bedroom units, upstairs remodeled, fpic & hdwd floors, wonderful bay view, garan & 2 car garage. Open 2 - 4:30 p.m.

Fiona Macintyre

BY APPOINTMENT

Price Upon Request

5200 Gardener's Delight & View Tool 1400 comes near Redwood Heights, w/easy commute. w/ handsome FP, Bay view, inviting & spacious, 3BD/2BA w/fam room.

Ruby Ng

Stupendous lot, mostly level with Level Land. Very unique property with stupendous San Francisco Bay views next to park land.

David Eckert

LOTS FOR SALE

\$550,000 Montclair Lot

Stupendous lot, mostly level with Level Land. Very unique property with stupendous San Francisco Bay views next to park land.

David Eckert

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ON THE CREST OF A HILL.....\$879,000

JUST LISTED! Gracious "traditional style" contemporary, built in 1989, with open, sunny floor plan. 4 BR, 3 BA, 2 fireplaces, 2 family rooms, and formal dining. Master suite on second floor. Decks at yard level and off of 2 story 3 car garage. Easy walk to SF or Oakland.

ENGLISH COUNTRY COTTAGE IN NORTH BERKELEY.....\$699,000

Hugh Golden Gate views. Darling in every aspect, and spacious too! 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, hugh brick fireplace, master suite on lower level, formal dining, wood floors, decks. This property is gorgeous and unique!

OPEN HOUSE

1911 A & B.....\$390,000 each

Nacio Brown

2 Beautifully rebuilt condos

\$549,000

5500 Thomas.....The Longs

\$249,000

767 41st.....Renovated 2BR, 1BA bungalow.

The Marienthals

13538 Campus.....4BR, 2.5BA. Views of hills, open space.

\$879,000

Rita Zwerdling

BY APPOINTMENT**SECOND FABULOUS WEST BERKELEY CONDO, LIKE NEW.....\$390,000**

JUST LISTED! This one has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath on the top floor, plus a separate, exterior access 1 bedroom, 1 bath. High ceilings, light-filled spaces. Totally rebuilt & remodeled, new kitchens, foundation, wiring and more! Super location, easy access to 4th Street shops, restaurants and SF commute.

TOTALLY RENOVATED NORTH OAKLAND BUNGALOW.....\$249,000

JUST LISTED! Remodeled kitchen and bath, built-ins, beautifully refinished hardwood floors. Lovely yard. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Near transportation and shopping.

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PIEDMONT
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415 Moraga Avenue

Traditional style with natural woods in living room and dining room. Three-plus bedrooms, two full baths. Office or den space.

Offered at \$545,000



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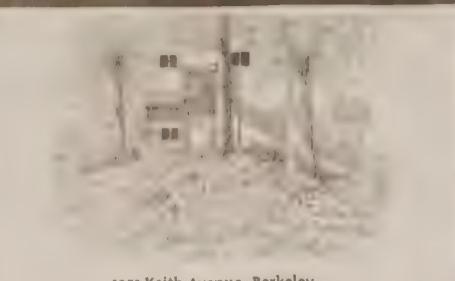


Chuck Corwin

Investment specialist for 25 years.
(510) 339-6460 ext. 353
ccorwin@pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

THE GRAND DAME OF KEITH



1051 Keith Avenue, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2 to 4

Meander if you will up a garden waterfall to this 20's classic with Bay views from its many large rooms, artistic detailing and over 2000 square feet of classic space.

Offered at \$595,000.



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Prudential
California Realty

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7222 SAYRE DRIVE, MONTCLAIR

Architecturally unique and built in 1988 on a large lot, this 1 bd, 1.5 ba has light, views & privacy.

- Decks, patio with spa tub and level yard area
- 2 car detached garage
- Hardwood floors, numerous built-ins, central vacuum
- Efficient kitchen

Offered at \$325,000



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MILLION DOLLAR VIEW IN PIEDMONT.....\$1,175,000

This spacious traditional features San Francisco, Golden Gate views, four bedrooms, three baths, hardwood, huge rumpus room for family and entertaining. First time ever on market. Ample storage space. 431 Pacific Ave., Piedmont

Martha Shin 510-339-8400



CARPET OF CITY LIGHTS.....\$415,000

Beneath this Bay-o-Vista all level custom two bedroom, two bath ranch. Abundance of glass showcases San Francisco and three bridge views. Situated on top of the world and tucked away in a cul-de-sac. 1680 Scenicview Drive, San Leandro

Sherdella Sims 510-339-4000



NEWLY LISTED UPPER DIMOND HOME - BAY VIEW!.....\$329,000

Just down from the Mormon Temple, this sunny bungalow has views from living room and master bedroom. Spacious kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, French doors out to lovely private yard, inside stairs to attached garage. 2456 Alida

Jim Schubert 510-339-4000



INCREDIBLE VALUE.....\$285,000

Duplex on oversized lot across from Mills College. Owner's unit has two master bedrooms and two baths, private patio, living room with fireplace. Second unit has one bedroom, one bath, formal dining room, large kitchen and living room with fireplace. 5219-5221 MacArthur Noni Robinson 510-339-8400



NEW ON MARKET!!!.....\$265,000

Wonderful starter home on cute street close to Glenview. Split-level floor plan with hardwood floors, fireplace and small private garden. 3207 Randolph Ave. Maria Sinclair 510-339-8400

1st OPEN - AFFORDABLE HOUSING!.....\$239,000

First rate two bedroom, one bath home located in pride of ownership Durant Manor bordering San Leandro. Spacious vaulted living room, formal dining room and eat-in kitchen. Crisp and clean throughout. 1820 - 109th Ave. Earle Shenk 510-339-4000

By Appointment



ROCKRIDGE CLASSIC TRADITIONAL.....\$590,000

Stunning living room with expansive bay windows, formal dining room with built-in china cabinet and leaded glass. Three bedrooms, plus garden office studio with French doors. Easy walk to BART and shops.

Mary Jane McConville 510-339-8400



GLENVIEW GEM!.....\$459,000

...With an incredible back yard. Three bedrooms, spacious living & dining areas, plank hardwood floors, rumpus room, and two fireplaces.

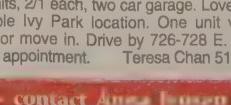
Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400



CHARMING 1908 BERKELEY TRADITIONAL.....\$399,000

...Has spacious room, formal dining, and loads of potential. Very conveniently located across from BART. Don't miss this outstanding opportunity!

Rosemary Greene 510-339-4000



CHARMING DUPLEX.....\$320,000

Two units, 2/1 each, two car garage. Lovely grounds, desirable Ivy Park location. One unit vacant and ready for move in. Drive by 726-728 E. 22nd St. & Call for appointment.

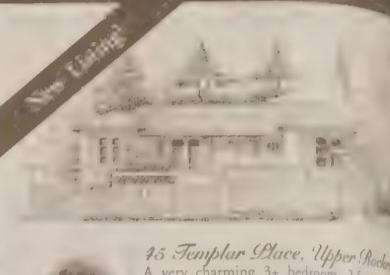
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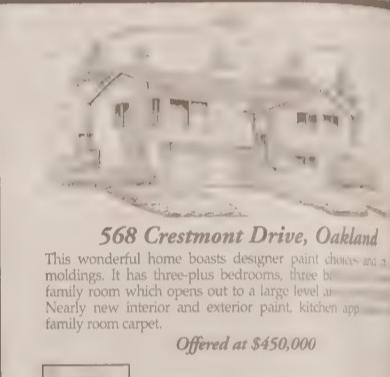
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55 Templar Place, Upper Rockridge
A very charming 3+ bedroom, 2.5 bath
desirable Upper Rockridge & baths. Lovely front garden
Offered at \$595,000
Judy Rankin
Office: 339-0400/243
Residence: 339-0771
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568 Crestmont Drive, Oakland

This wonderful home boasts designer paint choices and moldings. It has three-plus bedrooms, three baths, a family room which opens out to a large level area. Nearly new interior and exterior paint, kitchen app family room carpet.

Offered at \$450,000



Leslie Gordon
510-339-6460 ext. 327

PACIFIC UNION

GRAND TUDOR.....\$950,000
This gracious home had been completely restored to its original beauty. Spacious entryway with grand staircase, large living room with fireplace, formal dining room, completely remodeled kitchen, three plus bedrooms and three baths.
1053 Sunnyhills Road Martha Shin 510-339-8400

JUST LISTED - FIRST OPEN!.....\$429,000
Sunny three bedroom, two bath custom home on quiet street with private yard.
3835 Forest Hill Arnold Mueller 510-339-4000

GLENVIEW CHARMER.....\$429,000
Great fixer in sought after Glenview. Four bedrooms, three baths, ample storage, large basement. Attached tandem garage plus separate carport. Sunny kitchen with access to patio and yard. Great potential.
3858 Brighton Ave. Martha Shin 510-339-8400

CHARMING STARTER!
In a delightful neighborhood situated on a hill with plans on file for possible additions. Offer wood floors, a large centrally located kitchen, ins, and a large, sunny rear yard. You will add two bedroom, one bath home.

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

Lots & Land

TWO MONTCLAIR UPSLOPE LOTS
Two lots at \$32,000 each, to be sold Upslope to the left of 450 Capricorn. Imagination.

David S. Kerr 510-339-8400

Sales

FROM PAGE B6

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$340,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$399,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$366,500

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$189,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$385,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$250,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$284,143

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$292,500
KENSINGTON
TOTAL SALES: 1

PRICE: \$200,000

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 104
LOWEST PRICE: \$83,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,175,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$270,240

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$1,875,000

REEDWOOD

TOTAL SALES: 38
LOWEST PRICE: \$95,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$450,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$228,355

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 27
LOWEST PRICE: \$140,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$595,000

MEDIAN PRICE: \$300,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$328,944

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 12
LOWEST PRICE: \$229,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$373,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$280,708

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers by TitleTech of Oakland which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office.

Neither company guarantees accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are estimated based upon applicable county transfer taxes. All questions regarding this information and any requests for additional listings and services provided by TitleTech should be directed to Bud Gorham at 510-568-7233 or TitleNotes@aol.com.

Sited on a big, beautiful, lush lot is a charming little mediterranean fixer, offering 2 bedrooms, an eat-in kitchen, living room with faux fireplace, basement and, separate garage. The home has a lovely view of green hills. Build on, or move in and build later? This property has many possibilities

\$265,000 "as is"

918 Taylor • Albany

Open houses - March 4th, and 11th 2:00-5:00 pm

510-644-5272

raynepalmer@aol.com
281 Arlington Ave.
Kensington



Rayne Palmer
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* Indicates Homes Being Held Open

OAKLAND/PIEDMONT**OAKLAND/PIEDMONT**

* Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,295,000
3517 Victor. Newly remodeled
4BD/2BA contemporary, incl. au
pair unit with sep. entrance.

Dana Eng 510-339-9290

* Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$375,000
280 Caldecott #217. Luxury
2BD/1BA condo. Price reduced
\$20K! Move-in ready! Seller must go!
www.santilena.com 510-339-9290

Immaculate Starter! \$270,000
Charming home with open floor
plan, 2BD/1BA, remodeled BA,
new paint, French doors to private
yard.

Janet 510-845-0200

Diamond Dist. Charm
2BD/1BA craftsman. Fireplace,
wood floors, great studio/garage,
delightful garden and patio.

Devony Corry 510-845-0200
510-466-5403

Best Buy in Alameda \$325,000
3BD/1BA home, spacious LR, all
on one level. Lots of parking and
much more. Call for details.

Caroline 510-337-8670

BERKELEY/ALBANY
Elegant Berk. Home! \$980,000
4BD/3.5BA, 3600 sq.ft., 2 car
garage. Exceptional views! 2
stories. Brand-new! Call Visha for
more.

Visha Zagata 510-526-5143

* Elmwood Queen Anne! \$795,000
Open Sunday 1-4, 2729 Derby St.
4+BD/3BA, finished attic, 2 fpics,
quiet st, excellent condition.

Terrence Jue 510-524-2526

High in the Hills \$699,000
Roger Lee design, 4+BD/3BA, SF
Golden Gate view, good in-law
setup, large yard.

Chris@neddersen.com
510-845-0200

* 16 Slater Lane \$699,000
Open Sunday 2-4:30. Best priced
home in Claremont Hills! Lovely
view. Walk to Peets and shops.
4BD + study.

Colette Ford 510-986-9545

Charming Elmwood
Brown Shingle \$639,000
Spacious 3+ home with original
details. Perfect condition. Large
level backyard. Must see.

Glass Sabine Team 510-326-
5055
510-428-0900

Grand Home with Bay Views
\$595,000
4BD/1.5BA, special home
w/grand living room. Meander
up a waterfall garden and enjoy
the views. 1051 Keith Ave.

Ana Forest 510-845-0200

BERKELEY/ALBANY**Mediterranean Fixer** \$265,000

Open Sunday 2-5, 918 Taylor.
Charming 2BD fixer on large
lot! Hill view, garage, basement,
more!

Rayne Palmer 510-526-5143

See Virtual Tour at:
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\$220,000

Extensively remodeled Live/Work
condo with electrical, plumbing,
seismic upgrades, parking, alarm
system, new kitchen & bathroom,
elegant features and much more.

Barbara Levy 510-869-2786
510-849-3711**CONTRA COSTA****Great Home in Pinole** \$439,000

Open 1-4, 2401 Hillview.
5BD/2+BA. Oak floor in LR/DR.
Separate workshop and newly
built pond.

Cory Kovacs 510-527-9800

Must See \$275,000

5218 Garvin Ave. 3BD/1BA,
covered patio, central heat,
attached garage. Call Keith.

Keith Miyamoto 510-527-9800

LOT FOR SALE**Montclair View Lot** \$185,000

Downslope 2-bridge view lot
located at highest point in
Montclair.

Jinn Carrigan 510-339-9290

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8201 Skyline Circle, Oakland
4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths
\$729,000



8205 Skyline Circle, Oakland
3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths
\$709,000

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This home has it all! Italian marble
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privacy, pool/spa, dramatic views from
every room, and overlooks Roundhill
Country Club. Call to preview!

WALNUT CREEK

Open Sunday 3-5pm! \$895,000
New executive home with 4 bedrooms,
2.5 baths, marble bathrooms, stone
fireplace, lovely valley views and
perfect for entertaining.
Visit our website for a Virtual Tour!

LAFAYETTE

\$649,500

Charming home with a great cul-
de-sac location and views!
Featuring 3 bedrooms and
bonus/recreation room, 2+ baths,
private backyard with pool and a
great woodsy setting.

OAKLAND

\$199,000

Two commercial lots in the heart of
downtown Oakland! 11,071 sq.ft.
on level lots, located in new China
Town with easy access to freeway
and BART.

SAN LEANDRO

\$310,000

Absolutely the best views of the Bay
and bridges from this 3 bedroom,
1.5 bath home with plenty of room
for expansion and great for first time
buyers. Don't miss this one!



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*unless otherwise indicated



ALAMEDA

Address & Realty Size Hours Price

806 Grand St 4BD/2 - BA 1-5 \$875,000 Michael Stadelman, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1129

2955 Seaview 4BD/3BA 2-4 \$870,000 Walt Jacobs 510-814-4710 Harbor Bay Realty

281 Tipperry 4BD/3BA 2-4 \$894,500 Open Sat & Sun Elaine Millin 510-814-4821 Jean Powers 510-814-4822 Harbor Bay Realty

52 Sea Bridge 3 - BD/2BA 1:30-4:30 \$639,000 Open Sat & Sun Tom Young 510-814-4841 Harbor Bay Realty

2101 Shoreline #276 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$639,000 Open Sat & Sun Eddie Budde 510-814-4835 Teri Lee 510-814-4840 Harbor Bay Realty

2807 Bayview Dr 3BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$495,500 Open Sat & Sun Bill Bissett, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1108

601 Park St 3BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$495,000 Open Sat & Sun John Paton 510-748-1115, Gallagher & Lindsey

10 Remmel Ct 3BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$489,000 Open Sat & Sun Ringo Liu 510-814-4711 Harbor Bay Realty

1254 Broadway 3BD 2-4 \$479,000 Open Sat & Sun Pat Colburn 510-885-3460, Steve Anderson 510-521-8869, Kane & Associates

138 Santa Clara Ave 2BD/2BA 2-4 \$459,500 Open Sat & Sun Dennis Keefe 510-748-1132 & Stan Lockhart, 510-748-1895, Gallagher & Lindsey

1848 6th St -BD/1BA 2-4 \$449,500 Steve Cressy 510-814-4818 Harbor Bay Realty

3275 Encinal 5BD/2BA 2-4 \$449,000 Open Sat & Sun Shirley McWilliam 510-814-4825 Harbor Bay Realty

1911 Victorian 2-units 2-5 \$432,500 owners ready, rental unit Chapman Shepard Real Estate, Warren Chapman 510-339-1023

602 Fern Lane 3BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$425,000 Open Sat & Sun Donald Williams 510-814-4826 Harbor Bay Realty

1032 Auburn Dr. 3BD 2-4 \$425,000 Marilyn Oliver 510-865-8888, Kane & Associates

428 Sunset Rd 3BD/2BA 2-4 \$425,000 Nancy & Steve Brandt 510-814-4223 Harbor Bay Realty

349 Magnolia 3BD 2-4 \$399,000 Open Sat & Sun Alan Gouch 510-521-0880, Krystyna Nowak 510-483-1678, Kane & Associates

27 Damon Ct. 2BD 2-4 \$395,500 Betty Sevall 510-522-1175, Janelle Spatz 510-521-0405, Kane & Associates

1700 Cornell 3 - BD/2BA 2-4 \$395,000 Nancy Gordon 510-814-4815 Harbor Bay Realty

234 Santa Clara 4BD/2BA 2-4 \$395,000 Mark Played 510-814-4874 Harbor Bay Realty

1530 Pearl St 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$380,000 Females Bettie Bakstiel, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400

1320 9th St 2BD 2-4 \$359,000 Denise Brady 510-523-9996 BaySide Real Estate

2519 Lincoln 2 - BD/1BA 2-4 \$340,000 George Williams 510-814-4830 Harbor Bay Realty

519 Central Av 2 - BA/1BA 2-4 \$348,000 Moon Tan, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-747-1620

865 Shorepoint Ct. 2BD 2-4 \$279,000 John McNulty 510-523-6732, Kane & Associates

217 Centre Ct 1BD 2-4 \$279,000 Open Sat Only Judy Jacobs 510-814-4711 Harbor Bay Realty

1539 6th St 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$225,000 Judy Jacobs 510-814-4711 Harbor Bay Realty

2031 Otis Dr 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$225,000 Marilyn Powers 510-814-4710 Harbor Bay Realty

ALBANY

Address & Realty Size Hours Price

512 Remona Ave. 3BD/1BA 2-4 \$449,000 Warren Lei 510-524-9888 x13 Berkeley Hills

918 Taylor 2BD/1BA 2-5 \$285,000 Open Sunday Prudential CA Rhy., Reyne Palmer, 510-524-2526

281 Tipperary 4BD/3BA 2-4 \$894,500 Open Sat & Sun Elaine Millin 510-814-4821 Jean Powers 510-814-4822 Harbor Bay Realty

52 Sea Bridge 3 - BD/2BA 1:30-4:30 \$639,000 Open Sat & Sun Tom Young 510-814-4841 Harbor Bay Realty

2101 Shoreline #276 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$639,000 Open Sat & Sun Eddie Budde 510-814-4835 Teri Lee 510-814-4840 Harbor Bay Realty

2807 Bayview Dr 3BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$495,500 Open Sat & Sun Bill Bissett, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1108

601 Park St 3BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$495,000 Open Sat & Sun John Paton 510-748-1115, Gallagher & Lindsey

10 Remmel Ct 3BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$489,000 Open Sat & Sun Ringo Liu 510-814-4711 Harbor Bay Realty

1254 Broadway 3BD 2-4 \$479,000 Open Sat & Sun Pat Colburn 510-885-3460, Steve Anderson 510-521-8869, Kane & Associates

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865 Shorepoint Ct. 2BD 2-4 \$279,000 John McNulty 510-523-6732, Kane & Associates

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1539 6th St 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$225,000 Judy Jacobs 510-814-4711 Harbor Bay Realty

2031 Otis Dr 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$225,000 Marilyn Powers 510-814-4710 Harbor Bay Realty

BERKELEY

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271 Remona Ave. 3BD/1BA 2-4 \$449,000 Warren Lei 510-524-9888 x14 Berkeley Hills

918 Taylor 2BD/1BA 2-5 \$285,000 Open Sunday Prudential CA Rhy., Reyne Palmer, 510-524-2526

281 Tipperary 4BD/3BA 2-4 \$894,500 Open Sat & Sun Elaine Millin 510-814-4821 Jean Powers 510-814-4822 Harbor Bay Realty

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1530 Pearl St 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$380,000 Females Bettie Bakstiel, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400

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1539 6th St 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$225,000 Judy Jacobs 510-814-4711 Harbor Bay Realty

2031 Otis Dr 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$225,000 Marilyn Powers 510-814-4710 Harbor Bay Realty

371 Pebble Beach 4BD/2BA 2-4 \$649,000 Courtland, Inc. 510-524-9858 Security Pacific R.E.

2338 Santa Clara 2BD/1bd/1pm Duplex 4BD/2BA 2-4 \$429,000 Open Sunday Lawton Associates, Ross Kres 510-547-5970

1618 Capistrano 1BD/2ba 2-4 \$372,000 Nancy Grant 510-814-4888 x10 Berkeley Hills RE

1700 7th St 4BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$445,000 Prudential CA Rhy., Terri Jue 510-524-2526

1421 Lincoln 2 bd/1bs 2-4 \$395,000 Open Sun. Hayward, Vicki Landes, Prudential 510-339-8290

1029 Page St 2+ + Bd 1-50pm Sun Jamie Lake Security Pac. 510-662-9487

3113 Shattuck 1 - BD/1BA 2-4 \$324,000 Shattuck Lofts 3324 #334 & 334A #3000 Lawton Associates, Ross Kres 510-547-5970

543 Coventry 3 BD/2.5 Ba 2-4 \$349,500 Open Sunday Kathy Burt 510-559-2355, Marvin Gardens RE

2 Quail Hill Ct 3BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$300,00 Quail Hill Ct, El Sobrante, Prudential 510-339-9290

6935 Elverton Dr 4BD/3BA 2-4 \$325,000 Elverton Dr, Howard Converse, Prudential 510-339-9290

55 Bay Forest Dr 3 - BD/4BA 2-4 \$389,000 Oakley Rockridge, Wendy Callaghan, Wells & Bennett Realtors 510-531-7008

6838 Charing Cross Rd 3BD/3 - BA 2-4 \$255,000 Charing Cross Rd, 5000 DMaggio, Montclair Better Homes, 510-539-4000

5943 Buena Vista 4BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$325,000 Upper Rockridge Bob Brunner, 510-982-0203, Prudential Landmark Real Estate

268 Rydal Court 4BD/2 - BA 2-4 \$320,000 Rydal Court, Kurt Buchholz, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400

6838 Wilshire Blvd. 3BD/2BA 2-4 \$10,000 Open Sunday Diane Mintz 510-527-2700, Marvin Gardens RE

1838 Charing Cross Rd 3BD/3 - BA 2-4 \$255,000 Charing Cross Rd, 5000 DMaggio, Montclair Better Homes, 510-539-4000

1638 Charing Cross Rd 3BD/3 - BA 2-4 \$255,000 Charing Cross Rd, 5000 DMaggio, Montclair Better Homes, 510-539-4000

1539 Prince Rd 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$475,000 Open Sunday RED OAK, 510-333-1817, Sara

488 Fairbanks Ave 3 - BD/2BA 2-4 \$469,000 Fairbanks Ave, Carolyn Jones 510-339-6400 ext 333, Pacific Union

556 Crestmont Dr 3 - BD/3BA 2-4 \$450,000 Crestmont Dr, Karen Starr, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400

3835 Forest Hills 3BD/2BA 2-4 \$423,000 Arnold Mueller, Montclair Better Homes, 510-539-4000

3688 Brighton Ave 4BD/3BA 2-4 \$429,000 Brighton Ave, Sandi Kenmer 510-339-6450 ext 314; Dick Cohen ext. 308 Pacific Union

5616 Vicente Wy 2BD/1BA 2-4 \$399,000 Rockridge Michael Vales, Valerie Co., 510-451-7317

70 Rio Vista 2 - BD/1BA 1:30-4:30 \$395,000 Prudential CA Rhy., Amy Kayashita, 510-524-2526

3816 Terramont Ct 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$379,000 Open Sunday 3816 Terramont Ct, Karen Morris, 510-339-4000

3816 Terramont Ct 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$379,000 Open Sunday 3816 Terramont Ct, Karen Morris, 510-339-4000

260 Caldecott #101 2BD/2BA 2-4 \$375,000 Open Sunday Tricia Swift, 510-523-2133, Jerry Nussbaum 510-522-0968, Kim Associates

1612 Tiffin Road 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$365,000 Open Sunday Sally Rudoff 510-523-2314, Jerry Nussbaum 510-522-0968, Kim Associates

1608 Oaks Blvd 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$365,000 Open Sunday Diane Mintz 510-527-2700, Marvin Gardens RE

1608 Scenicview Dr 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$365,000 Open Sunday Diane Mintz 510-527-2700, Marvin Gardens RE

1608 Scenicview Dr 2BD/1 - BA 2-4 \$365,000 Open Sunday Diane Mintz 510-527-2700, Marvin Gardens RE

1608 Scenicview Dr 2BD/1 - BA

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101 Beechwood Drive, Oakland
Elegant architecture and exceptional detailing accent this romantic five bedroom, three plus bath Tuscan Villa in Claremont Pines. Designed and built by Mark Becker, this new home sits on an exceptional lot with private gardens. Offered at \$2,349,000.

John Karnay
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30 Arcade Lane

\$725,000



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Cal Fed Lending	6.875+.991(7.03)	7.25+1(7.36)	6.875+.661(7.71)	6.75+.346(7.14)	6.375+.83(7.13)	Ask about our FHA and CAL STRS Loan Program, \$3,000 first time home buyer grant. Free pre-qualification. For different pricing options call (925)-256-9667
925-256-9667	7+.551(7.11)	7.375+.259(7.41)	7+.244(7.2)	6.875+.01(7.16)	6.625+.01(7.15)	
CMG Mortgage Inc.	6.5+.175(6.75)	6.125+.15(7.33)	6.75+.1625(6.09)	6.5+.15(6.72)	6.375+.1375(6.58)	Aggressive financing for people with less than perfect credit
800-958-5339	6.75+.1(6.92)	7.375+.875(7.51)	7.0+.1(7.18)	6.75+.1(6.92)	6.625+.1(6.80)	Refinances. Prequalifications. Second mortgages
	7.125+.0(7.20)	7.625+.0(7.68)		7.125+.0(7.20)	7.125+.0(7.20)	Call Mike 7 days a week. Open Saturdays and Sundays
Downey Savings & Loan	6.5+.2125(6.76)	7+.225(7.25)	NA	0+.0(0)	0+.0(0)	Direct lender, 40 years experience. All types of borrowers. Fixed and ARM mortgages
800-798-2148						
Mortgage Market	6.875+.0(6.09)	7.375+.0(7.50)	6.875+.0(6.89)	6.75+.0(6.87)	6.375+.0(6.49)	Credit problems, bankrupt, difficult loans our specialty. All government loans. 100% loans, credit lines, construction 20 years of service. Appointments anytime! 1-800-837-LOAN
800-837-5626						

Information is current as of February 27, 2001. For information on specific mortgage programs, call the lender. Rates, points and program points include discount and origination fees. Most quotes are for 30-day lock-in, unless otherwise stated. Amount \$275,000 jumbo loans are in excess of \$2

than the stated note rate or advertised rate on the mortgage, because it takes into account points and other credit costs. The APR allows homeowners to compare different types of mortgages based on the annual cost for each loan. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. LTV=loan to value. Mi-mortgage insurance NA-not available. ND-not disclosed. Lenders to call 1-800-4NS-8250. To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator, and for extensive mortgage, real estate, and consumer financial information, including tips and definitions of terms, please visit our website at www.cnsweb.com. Copyright 2001 Consumer News Systems, Inc.

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This 4BR, 3.5BA has been renovated to reflect a contemporary style with warmth, light, City and Bay views. Fab 2-story loft-like unit/office. Best location. MIRIAM WILSON ext. 300



The Sea Ranch\$900,000

Beautiful oceanfront showcase home with fantastic views, many great features. Almost 2000 sq. ft., 2 story home. 2BR, 2BA.



Panoramic 3 Bridge View!.....\$735,000

Open Sunday 2-4:30. Just listed! Fabulous down-slope Hiller townhouse. Enclosed patio with hot tub. Upgraded. Atrium. Home office, 3+BR, 2+BA.

GAYLE TANTAU ext. 260



Jack London Would Want To Live Here! .. \$625,000

Lovely-built craftsman-like home with large open wood ceiling living room and dining area. Old custom fireplace accents the room with hardwood floors. Beautiful updated kitchen matching the style of the home. Have a peaceful morning breakfast outside on your private deck and landscaped yard. 2BR, 2BA with private office space and wine room downstairs with separate entrance. MEL COPLAND ext. 255



New Listing - Montclair\$487,000

Level creek setting, walk to village! 2BR, 2BA, master suite. Hardwood. Rear patio and garden. Newer kitchen/baths. Attached garage.

HAL CASTLE ext. 220



Prime Montclair Location\$399,000

Charming, comfortable and cozy 3BR, 1BA home with extra large lot. Walk to Montclair village.

CAROL COHEN ext. 225



Charming Trad. W/Sep. In-Law Apt.....\$349,000

Updated 3BR home with separate studio/in-law unit. Lovely setting on cul-de-sac. Fenced yard, fireplace, hardwood floors. Close to transportation.

LOIS JOHNSON ext. 226



Rose Garden Condo\$289,000

Pristine 2BR, 2BA unit in well-managed building near Oakland's Rose Garden. Fireplace in living room. Offers March 1st.

TOM NEMETH ext. 249



Eastern Style Condo-Just Listed.....\$289,000

Unique condo with charm personified. Fabulous serene Rose Garden views. Family dining room with built-ins. Fireplace & much more!!!

CAROL COHEN ext. 225

New Construction completed April 15th.....\$879,000
End of cul-de-sac custom built home, approx. 3700 sq. ft., 4BR, 3.5BA.....MEL COPLAND ext. 255

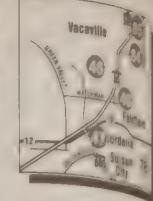
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Stone Valley Oaks

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Bella Terra

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La Siena at Montevino

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Poppy Meadows

From the \$300,000's. Schuler Homes presents fiber optic technology and steel-frame construction. 1- and 2-story homes range from 1845 to 2350 sq. ft. 4-6 bedrooms. From \$60 to North to Hwy 80 to I-80 North to Hwy 37 west. To Hwy 28 north, left on Kimberly and left on Poppy Dr. Sales Office is open daily 10-5 except for Tues. 1-5, 707-558-8067 www.schulerhomes.com

The Preserve

From the mid \$300,000's. GRAND OPENING! For Preview Only 1- and 2-story, 2378-3359 sq.ft., 3-6BR, 2.5-4BA, 3-car & 4-car gar. Natural reserve, Napa River, parks, and kids walk to school. Open 10-6 www.HomesByDavidson.com. 707-556-9398

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Aspen Grove

From mid \$400,000's. Extraordinary residences with 3,180 to 3,554 sq.ft., up to 6BR & 3 car garages. Sales office open daily. 2731 Zinfandel Ct. 925-522-0627. Warmington Homes CA.

The Hills at Deer Valley

From high \$200,000's. New Phase Release 2042-2941 sq.ft. Flex floor plans. View lots avail. Up to 6BR/4BA, Hwy 4, Kester to Deer Valley Rd., 405 Galeney Way. Woodside Homes 925-754-1661. Open daily. www.richmondamerican.com

Huntington Park

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11 Terrazza at Laurel Ridge

From the mid \$300,000's. William Lyon Homes Inc. presents 4 & 5 BR homes, tucked along hillsides w/mt. Diablo views. Four floorplans, 2500-3434 sq.ft., 3 car gar, flex optn. 925-755-0167

Meadow Creek Springs

From the low \$300,000's. New neighborhood of estate style homes up to 3312 sq.ft., 4-BR, 3 car garages. Near shopping, schools & parks. Hillcrest to Lone Tree. 925-755-9270 www.sevenhomes.com

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From high \$300,000's. New Selling. Lux. single-fam. home up to 3689 sq.ft., 4-BR, 4 BA. Great commute. Open Tues-Sun, 10-5, Mon-3-5. Hwy 4 E exit Lone Tree Way to Deer Valley Rd. to Prewett Ranch to Marigold. Open Tues-10, Mon-5-3. 925-779-3407 www.richmondamerican.com

Terrazza at Laurel Ridge

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Hills neighborhood. Up to 2350 sq. ft. cover-

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\$50,000 826 Pine St. Fenced vacant lot approx. 2000 sq. ft. Adjacent to 1779 Chase St. Kathy Hirsch (510) 814-4706

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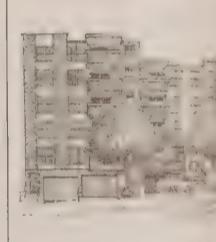
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Carol Robbiano ext. 239

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NCS girls

FROM PAGE C1

court press on the Gauchos and converting a string of turnovers into transition baskets.

Led by 6-foot-2 junior center Tori Markey, Miramonte ended the half with a 22-6 run.

Markey, who finished with a game-high 20 points, seven rebounds and five steals, had 13 points in the first half.

The second half was much the same, as the Matadors expanded the lead to 53-32 after three quarters.

"It was lack of concentration on our part," El Cerrito coach Ron Williams said. "Miramonte did a good job of mixing defenses on us and applying pressure. And Markey — she's just an outstanding athlete."

Said Spinola: "Their big girls didn't run the floor as well as our big girls did. We were able to go inside at will."

The Gauchos were not helped by

the absence of two key players — Destini Nowlin and Tyreisha Brown. Each player missed the game due to personal reasons.

"That hurt us majorly," Williams said. "Our younger girls played well for a while, but Miramonte is an experienced team; they've been here before. They know that you've got to play focused all the time."

LaTesha Hagler led El Cerrito with 10 points.

Division I Berkeley 88, Mission San Jose 36

BERKELEY — The Berkeley High School girls basketball team grabbed 23 steals en route to an 88-36 thrashing of Mission San Jose on Tuesday in the first round of the North Coast Section Division I playoffs.

The area's second leading scorer, Robin Roberson, had a game-high 21 points and nine rebounds.

Berkeley (22-5) got an early lead in the first quarter by stealing the ball on four consecutive in-bounds

plays by the Warriors (16-12). All four steals were immediately converted into layups. The Yellowjackets continued to find the open shots and built a 20-8 lead with 2:30 left in the first quarter.

By halftime, Berkeley had a 53-17 lead. Mission turned the ball over 13 times in addition to being picked often. They also shot poorly, including a 2-for-17 performance in the second quarter. For the game, the Warriors shot 27 percent from the field (15-54). Berkeley shot better than 50 percent for the game on a 36-of-70 performance from the field.

Sabina Keys grabbed eight rebounds and had 10 points for Berkeley. The leading rebounder for Mission San Jose was Sabina Mejia, with six. Mejia and teammate Kim Gallagher led the team with 10 points each.

Berkeley will next play Pittsburg at home on Friday. The time is to be determined.

Staff writers Gabrielle Stevenson, Joe Stiglich and Chace Bryson contributed to this story.

Boys

FROM PAGE C1

Tyree Gardner paced the Pirates with 23 points, including five 3-pointers.

The three other senior starters for Berkeley also scored in double digits: Reed had 12 points, Riordan 11, including two 3s, and Davis with 10.

St. Jules does not want their careers to end tonight.

"I love this team," he said.

Post game:

Going into the San Leandro game, Davis led in scoring average (15.7 ppg), followed by Riordan (12.9), St. Jules (10) and Reed (9), who also paces the club in rebounding, averaging 11 per game.

man said.

It wasn't. Scraping for runs, Albany got one back in the third when Yaw Yiodom, who was in the lineup following the wrestling season, walked, stole second and scored on an error to close to 3-1.

Meanwhile, Dunlap and Albany's Jeremiah Pinguelo had settled down on the hill. After allowing three runs on four hits and two walks through two innings, Pinguelo retired the next seven Jets he saw.

"Jeremiah just needs to warm up a little bit more," Freeman said. "Once he settles down, he throws pretty good."

Dunlap got some timely — crucial, in fact — support from his lineup in the bottom of the fifth. With two out and clean-up hitter Buckingham up, Saunders sent baserunners Loy and slugger Jimmy Olson on their way to a double steal. The pair pulled it off.

"I was figuring I had a better chance to score with a runner on second base," Saunders said.

With a 2-1 count, Buckingham stroked a two-run double down the left-field line to put the Jets up 5-1.

Encinal needed both runs because by the sixth, Albany was ready to swing its bats. With Dunlap appearing to tire somewhat (he entered the inning having served up 83 pitches), Yiodom drove a 3-1 pitch into left-center for a single. Dunlap fanned the next batter, but Matt Ball got to him by singling hard to right and that scored Yiodom.

Saunders lifted Dunlap in favor of right-hander Eugene Smith. Smith gave up a lead-off single, fanned Albany's No. 9 batter, then gave up singles to Gross, who knocked in David Colister's hit.

Colister's hit was the last Albany got. Encinal added an insurance run in the sixth when Loy singled home Johnson for 6-3.

in golf, pretty soon a 6-foot-5 golfer will not be allowed to compete against a 5-foot-4 golfer, and if they don't use the same swing one would be disqualified.

Golf is not fair. It is not fair for a 12-year-old to beat a law student in the finals, like Burkard did last year.

And it certainly is not fair for Harding Park to be open while hundreds of mud-cuffed golfers are denied a chance to play in the City.

But at least they will play The City.

Ron Salsig, who believes it is not fair for the sun to shine one way in the morning and another in the afternoon, can be reached at rsalsig@pacbell.net

No. 6 Analy 53, El Cerrito 49

SEBASTOPOL — El Cerrito relinquished its lead by allowing a run in the third quarter and never recovered in a 53-49 loss to No. 6 Analy.

The Gauchos (10-17) were outscored 18-7 after leading 27-23 at the half.

El Cerrito was led by Franco Harris' 12 points. Kenneth James added 11.

Hitting with runners in scoring position, pushing it on the bases, wide-ranging catches, steady work on the mound — why, it hardly looked like opening day at the park.

Post game:

AT YOUR SERVICE ... The Jets had an opener against Las Lomas postponed once, then again; Albany lost its opener against Novato when neither team could find a serviceable field.

To get a game in — and it turned out to be a beautiful day at the park — a little cooperation was required.

Freeman explained: "Jim called me Sunday and said, 'I've got the college (COA), but I've got no team to play.' Our field and Novato's field were (out), so we had to cancel. We ended up getting this game."

Both team went on to play additional games during the week.

STATS ... Albany out-hit Encinal 9-6.

Yiodom reached base all four times he came to the plate — once by a single, twice on walks and once with an infield error. He scored twice and stole two bases ... Collister had two singles and Matt Ball went 2-for-3 with a run scored and an RBI ... Chris Colvin went 2-for-3.

Batting leadoff for Encinal, Loy reached base four times, going 3-for-4 with two runs scored and two RBIs.

His first-inning triple was the hardest-hit ball of the day ... Buckingham went 2-for-3 with two RBIs and a double ... Johnson was officially 0-for-1, but walked twice and scored both times.

Dunlap and Smith combined to strike out 10 batters ... Dunlap made 97 pitches ... James Asua pitched a five-inning no-hitter and Chris Weakley homered and drove in three runs as the Cougars (1-2) defeated Oakland 17-0 at home on Wednesday.

SCHEDULES ... The Jets play the Granada Matadors in Livermore today at 3:30 p.m.

Players must wear shin guards and cleats, and bring one white and one dark shirt. Players should try to attend all tryout dates. Tryouts for under-15 and older will begin March 27 and are posted on the Bay Oaks Web site at www.bayoaks.net.



Night time is right time

SHORT STUFF — Ten-year-old Jordan Ferguson of the Scholars and Baiters confronted a tall of hanging out." Participants are required to attend hour-long workshop/rap sessions before each can talk about issues in education, health, self-esteem and employment. Then it's time to Play Ball!

Diamonds

FROM PAGE C1

ing that, I think we did really well."

Albany filled the bases in the first inning, but came up empty when Encinal left-hander Cory Dunlap fanned Albany's No. 4 and 6 batters to retire the side.

In the bottom of the first, Nick Loy stroked the first pitch he saw into deep center field for a triple. One pitch later, Randy Garchar singled Loy home and the Jets were in business, 1-0.

Except the business did not take off. Ranging into foul territory behind first base, Albany second baseman Bryan Gross reeled in a pop fly, then Marcus Buckingham, who singled, was forced at second base. On the play, Buckingham was called for interference, eliminating Jason Rivera, who had reached base on a fielder's choice, in the deal.

End of rally.

But Encinal, which blasted more than 40 home runs last spring, pushed a couple more runs across in the second. It began with Dunlap reaching on a walk. A stout ballplayer, Dunlap managed to travel around the bases, landing on third with a passed ball then scoring on a wild pitch. Appreciating his hustle, his teammates mobbed him outside the dugout.

"I was just being aggressive," Dunlap explained. "They think I'm big and slow. But I was being aggressive, trying to advance into scoring position by taking third. Then I just had to take home."

And Encinal then made it 3-0 when Loy singled home Lionel Johnson, who had walked and stolen second.

At this point, many fans thought Encinal was on its way to a blow out.

"It could have been 16-0," Free-

will take place at Alameda Point field No. 2 at the dates and places as follows:

SPORTS BRIEFS

Youth soccer

•

Under-10 Girls, Born after: 7-

31-91: Saturday, March 3, 9:30-noon; Sunday, March 4, 10-noon; Saturday, Mar. 10, 10-noon.

Under-11 Girls, born between 8-1-90 and 7-31-91: Saturday, March 3, 11:30-2; Sunday, March 4, noon-2; Saturday, March 10, noon.

Under-12 Girls, born between 8-1-89 and 7-31-90: Saturday, March 3, 1:30-4; Sunday, March 4, 2-4; Saturday, March 10, 2-4.

Under-13 Girls, born between 8-1-88 and 7-31-89: Saturday, March 3, 3:30-6; Sunday, March 4, 4-6; Saturday, March 10, 4-6.

Under-14 Girls, born between 8-1-87 and 7-31-88: Saturday, March 3, 7:30-10 a.m.; Sunday, March 4, 8-10; Saturday, March 10, 8-10.

Under-10 Boys, Born after: 7-31-91: Saturday, March 3, 9:30-noon; Sunday, March 4, 10-noon; Sunday, Mar. 11, 10-noon.

Under-11 Boys, born between 8-1-90 and 7-31-91: Saturday, March 3, 11:30-2; Sunday, March 4, noon-2; Saturday, March 11, noon-2.

Under-12 Boys, born between 8-1-89 and 7-31-90: Saturday, March 3, 1:30-4; Sunday, March 4, 2-4; Saturday, March 11, 2-4.

Under-13 Boys, born between 8-1-88 and 7-31-89: Saturday, March 3, 3:30-6; Sunday, March 4, 4-6; Saturday, March 11, 4-6.

Under-14 Boys, born between 8-1-87 and 7-31-88: Saturday, March 3, 7:30-10 a.m.; Sunday, March 4, 8-10; Saturday, March 11, 8-10.

Parents and plati-

tional questions

www.bayoaks.net. Ple

Parents and plati-

tional questions

Arts

'Mexican' borders on success

■ So the story has a few flaws and its share of violence, but this Roberts-Pitt comedy will still leave you smiling

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

"The Mexican" is the perfectly engineered date movie for the new millennium. It's got Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts — both playing zany, appealing characters — plenty of hit men and blood on the walls for the boys, and a love story and cute outfits for the girls. Let the box-office bonanza begin.

Reluctant, bumbling mob boss employee Jerry (Pitt) is given the choice of death or traveling to Mexico to do one last task before being

REVIEW

- WHAT: "The Mexican"
- STARRING: Brad Pitt, Julia Roberts, James Gandolfini
- RATING: R (violence, language)
- RUNNING TIME: 2 hours, 3 minutes
- WHERE: Opens today at area theaters
- GRADE: B+

released from the crime ring. His snake-like immediate boss, Bernie Nayman (Bob Balaban), is sending him to a remote village to retrieve a valuable hand-crafted silver pistol (the Mexican) for the big boss.

See MEXICAN, Page C5



JULIA ROBERTS and James Gandolfini have some nice chemistry in "The Mexican."

Berkeley troupe offers sharp, funny 'Someone'

SHOTGUN PLAYERS' current production, "Someone Who'll Watch Over Me," by Irish playwright Frank McGuinness, is a sobering, acutely etched — and yet, achingly and oddly funny — story about the resiliency of the human spirit under extreme duress. It's a tight play, a tiny cell with three prisoners stripped to their underwear and chained to the floor.

Director Patrick Dooley's tight direction adds to the intensity. But it is the sharply defined portrayals by the three actors that make this difficult play work. They are: Kevin Karrick Michael, an English university teacher; Richard J. Silberg as Adam, an American psychologist; and Clive Worsley as Edward, an Irish journalist.

The constraints of space and movement are essential elements of



JACK TUCKER
Community theater

the drama. After almost two hours — if you give yourself to the story unfolding on the little platform stage only yards away — you begin to share a feeling of deprivation, to sense the tightening grip of fear, to understand how it could feel to lose your sanity.

"Silence was also a critical part of this production," Dooley said when asked about some of his directorial choices.

In rehearsal, the actors found that it was very difficult to stay on

stage and not speak for only five minutes. The other temptation was to feel that they had to make up for their silence by filling the space with physical noise — activities, mimed stuff, artificial emotions, heavy breathing, etc.

"When they actually relaxed and just silently coexisted, it was beautiful — like watching a nature program."

To fight their mounting fear and save their sanity, the prisoners create imaginary refuges in their minds into which they can withdraw. They write and read aloud imaginary letters. In one especially funny sequence, each takes turns pretending to direct movies of the other two. The styles are eerily on the mark of their favorite directors: Hitchcock, Sam Peckinpah, Richard Attenborough.

They play imaginary games. They throw parties. They get angry with each other and shout. They make up. And it is in these turnabouts that they reveal a deep affection for and a dependence on one another.

The humor is sharp and penetrating. You feel guilty laughing, given the fix they're in. Then you realize the humor springs from an inner terror and they are holding it at bay with shafts of laughter.

This intensity cannot go on indefinitely, neither on stage nor in life. Something has to give. The dramatic explosion is a catharsis, the purifying of the emotions or relief of emotional tension, a concept originally applied by Aristotle to the effect of tragic drama on audiences.

See TUCKER, Page C5

stage

and

not

Reviews

PAGE C3

be excesses, but, and see? Maria is the wife, painter and plasterer, her own work to be set at the top of the series. The authoring of Maria's Mexican is an collector for the series, an option out there, the more interesting if it's not the most popular. And, although no one can be sure, in some cases, these missing pieces with the most interesting parts, like the most interesting parts of the most interesting parts, like the most interesting parts of the most interesting parts.

PROFESSOR'S OUT: Based on a TV movie, this mildly entertaining movie is a group of clichéd kids uncovering a few amusing moments, but the atmosphere is poor and the two-dimensional characters are mostly boring. — R. 3 hours, 28 minutes. D+

HEM FOR A DREAM: Very, very good recommendation, because watching it is a unique experience. Adapted (barely) from a novel by John Updike, the film "Hem for a Dream" takes a hard look at drug addiction. Ellen Burstyn is a lonely Conney Island widow who gets hooked on diet pills. She plays her son, who, along with girlfriend, Comely and friend, Marlene, is addicted to heroin. Director Michael Tolokovsky (PPT) plays a series of visual, creatively, he's on fire, and so are we. — M. Pol. (NR; extensive drug use, nudity and some graphic sexual scenes). 2 hours. A-

SAVING SILVERMAN: Surprisingly, this about human cruelty works because it has a heart. The heart is mostly black and evil, though, as two parents help their mischievous pal (Jason Biggs) become a beautiful woman. She (Amanda Peet) ends up to be evil incarnate. Yet "Saving Silverman" rejects pessimism, and every moment, how much despicable at the end, gets a chance at a happy ending. — A. Roman. (PG-13; language, comic violence and some sexuality). 1 hour, 31 minutes. B

SCATTCHE: Guy Ritchie's latest is a glib, the weak link as the presidential aide involved in the crisis. Much better are Bruce Greenwood as JFK and Steven Culp as RFK. A tense film that's directed with clean snappiness by Roger Donaldson ("No Way Out"). — M. Pol. (PG-13; language, images of nuclear destruction). 2 hours, 18 minutes. A-

3000 MILES TO GRACELAND: Only see this if you have a perverse desire to observe Kevin Costner in the throes of a midlife crisis. Otherwise, skip this appallingly violent, utterly graceless and illogical movie about a casino heist that goes awry. No one, not Courteney Cox as a grifter chick with her eyes on the cash, not Kurt Russell, and particularly not Costner, escapes unscathed from this mess. Yes, the trailer looks like a possibly cute comedy about Elvis impersonators. But that was just marketing. — M. Pol. (R; strong violence, sexuality and language). 2 hours, 10 minutes. F

Mexican

PAGE C3

Audrey Margolese (played, uncredited, a very well-known star). Jerry's girlfriend Sam (Roberts) gets him out of the mob, yesterday, and gets plans to leave L.A. and move to Las Vegas, where she will become a cropper and the couple will get a start. When Jerry tells her she's got to go to Mexico, she tosses him and his battered suitcase out.

Off he goes to get the gun, and off he goes to Vegas in her jaunty green Bug with "These Boots Are Made for Walking" blasting on her radio. She quickly picks up a traveling companion, a hit man named Leroy (James Gandolfini) who has been assigned to hold her hostage to ensure Jerry turns over the gun.

He's a spirited, intentionally quirky to "The Mexican" that right out of the early 1970s. Not does Sam drive a Bug, but she uses in macramé platforms and paisley patterned shirts and, at one point, even sports a necklace that pulls out Jerry's name. This part is cool.

The pacing is mostly light and enchanting — that is, when people aren't getting shot. Director Gore Verbinski punctuates his scenes by alternating placid moments — like waiting for a red light to turn green — with pulsions of movement and action. It's stirring, but in a giddy, Tijuana sort of way.

Gandolfini does rely on some classy cheap tricks, like the Angelinos' reaction to the slow pace of life in Mexico, the endearing old dog who pops up regularly throughout the movie, carrying a collapsed football in his teeth. He's also got a talent for small, clever touches. We spot Jerry's passion just once, but it's good for his mouth is hanging open and looks like a dork. Then there's that good joke where Jerry, looking at the village's only stoplight

blinks written and edited caper flick that features Brad Pitt's most entertaining performance since "12 Monkeys." Funny, then, how eminently forgettable it is. The talented Ritchie is like a kid who can't stop playing a video game he really likes, even though he's already top-scorer. — M. Pol. (R; strong violence, language, some nudity). 1 hour, 44 minutes. B

SWEET NOVEMBER: Nelson (Keisha Reeves) moves in with Sara (Charlize Theron) for a month of experimental love and life instruction. We understand his motivation, but he is a bit sketchy, until you notice that the normally healthy Theron is looking a bit too skinny and wan. On the standard movie scale, this is a pretty dreadful movie, borrowing heavily from the more manipulative elements of "Love Story" and the more twisted aspects of the male-female relationship in "Pretty Woman," with a splash of "Drama & Greg" cuteness. But as escapism, it's rather gloriously trashy. Both stars are appealing, the San Francisco setting looks great, and it's a guilty pleasure to watch two people fall in love the way they only do! — M. Pol. (PG-13; sexuality and some language). 1 hour, 54 minutes. C

THIRTEEN DAYS: Looks can be deceiving. What could have been a stale history lesson on the Cuban missile crisis is transformed into a thoroughly satisfying and absorbing movie. Even though we all know the outcome, "Thirteen Days" is an attention-grabber that hangs along almost like a good thriller. Kevin Costner is the weak link as the presidential aide involved in the crisis. Much better are Bruce Greenwood as JFK and Steven Culp as RFK. A tense film that's directed with clean snappiness by Roger Donaldson ("No Way Out"). — M. Pol. (PG-13; language, images of nuclear destruction). 2 hours, 18 minutes. A-

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME: Kenneth Lonergan makes a strong debut as writer/director in this offbeat movie about the bond between brothers and sisters. Sammi (Laura Linney) and Terry (Mark Ruffalo) were orphans as young kids, and their lives have taken very different paths. Sammi works at the local bank and has never left home (she lives in their parents' house with her 8-year-old son), while Terry is an aimless drifter. The movie looks at what happens when Terry comes home for a visit and the two are reunited. Co-winner of this year's Grand Jury Prize at Sundance, this is a small movie that parks itself in your brain and refuses to depart. Linney and Ruffalo are both outstanding, and Matthew Broderick shines (as usual) in a small part. — M. Pol. (R; language, some sexuality and drug use). 1 hour, 32 minutes. A-

— stoplights are a recurring theme — twice encounters a flatbed truck with a bizarrely masked driver steering from a front compartment. Sensibly, Verbinski gives us only two ganders at it. A third would have been overkill.

Screenwriter J.H. Wyman (best, or rather, known, for a 1997 failed Tarantino-esque caper movie called "Pale Saints") gets the smart dialogue just right, but he takes a few plot wrong turns that will confuse your average bear. For example, the very first scene is a close-up of a stoplight on Laurel Canyon turning green, then red, then green again, while, off-screen, you hear the noise of a car accident.

Jerry, a notoriously bad driver, has hit a car occupied by crime boss Arnold Margolese, who happens to have a person in his trunk. Responding to the accident, the police find the intended victim, and Margolese is sent to prison.

This is the only rationale for goofy nice guy Jerry's induction into the criminal world; that he's somehow beholden to Margolese. From the way Wyman writes, you might think this happened just a few weeks ago, but if this is ever bear's reasoning is correct, it really happened five years ago.

"The Mexican" earns its R rating through violence, not sex. Even America's sweetheart picks up a gun at one point. We haven't seen Julia fire a weapon since she nailed that lousy husband of hers in "Sleeping With the Enemy." As she did then, she takes a trembling, doleful approach to both witnessing and eventually in perpetuating violence.

Call me dirty-minded, but I'd much rather see a few shots of Julia and Brad rolling around in bed, or at the very least exchanging a few languid kisses in the Mexican heat, than firing guns.

No such luck. When it comes to romance, the movie has almost a prudish quality. Sam and Jerry would rather bicker than frolic. Even when reunited after more than an hour of screen-time separation, we witness only a warm hug. Cut to them in a hotel room, where Sam is lying on the bed watching a Mexican soap opera while Jerry calls his boss.

me necabit!" "(God, look at the time! My wife will kill me!)

■ "Estne volumen in toga, an solum tibi libet me videre?" ("Is that a scroll in your toga, or are you just happy to see me?")

■ "Cum catapultae proscriptae erunt tum soli proscriptae catapultae habebunt." ("When catapults are outlawed, only outlaws will have catapults.")

■ "Lex clavatorum designati rescindenda est." ("The designated hitter rule has got to go.")

■ "Audire no possum. Musa sapientum fixa est in auro." ("I can't hear you. I have a banana in my ear.")

■ "Sento aliquos togatos contra me conspirare." ("I think some people in togas are plotting against me.")

■ "Antiquis temporibus, nati tibi similes in rupibus ventosissimis exponebantur ad necem." ("In the good old days, children like you were left to perish on windswept crags.")

■ "Caesar si viveret, ad remum dareis." ("If Caesar were alive, you'd be chained to an oar.")

■ "Quantum materiae materiarum marmota monax si marmota monax materiam possit materiarum?"

TRAFFIC: Steven Soderbergh's epic story of the drug war in America is, hands down, the best movie of the year. It hits every angle, from Benicio Del Toro's striking turn as an honest Mexican policeman in a sea of corruption to Michael Douglas' role as America's newest drug czar, a man too intent on the bigger battle to realize his teenage daughter is dipping into hard drugs. We even met up with a drug kingpin and his pregnant wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones). This is a big movie, challenging and deeply rewarding. The ensemble cast is absolutely mind-blowing, and so is the dexterity with which Soderbergh both welds his camera and weaves a fascinating story. — M. Pol. (R; pervasive drug use, strong language, violence and some sexuality). 2 hours, 27 minutes. A

THE WEDDING PLANNER: Jennifer Lopez really shows off a delightful comedic talent as Mary Fiore, who pulls off a guinea pig wedding with the military precision of an army general, the technology of a concert promoter and the soft-spoken grace of an ambassador. She finds herself falling in love with pediatrician Matthew McConaughey, who rescues her from a runaway trash bin, until she discovers he's the fiancé of her wealthy client, Fran (Bridget Wilson-Sampras). Keenly funny moments and a kinder, less vindictive approach to resolving intersecting love triangles make this romantic comedy glitter in its genre. — V. Chan. (PG-13; language and some sexual humor). 1 hour, 40 minutes. B+

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME: Kenneth Lonergan makes a strong debut as writer/director in this offbeat movie about the bond between brothers and sisters. Sammi (Laura Linney) and Terry (Mark Ruffalo) were orphans as young kids, and their lives have taken very different paths. Sammi works at the local bank and has never left home (she lives in their parents' house with her 8-year-old son), while Terry is an aimless drifter. The movie looks at what happens when Terry comes home for a visit and the two are reunited. Co-winner of this year's Grand Jury Prize at Sundance, this is a small movie that parks itself in your brain and refuses to depart. Linney and Ruffalo are both outstanding, and Matthew Broderick shines (as usual) in a small part. — M. Pol. (R; language, images of nuclear destruction). 2 hours, 18 minutes. A-

Soap opera. Phone call. Hello? Has anyone involved with this production ever heard of make-up sex? Sam and Jerry don't have to strip for us, but come on, for \$10 million each, two of Hollywood's mega stars are both outstanding, and Matthew Broderick shines (as usual) in a small part. — M. Pol. (R; language, some sexuality and drug use). 1 hour, 32 minutes. A-

That's not to say that Brad and Julia aren't utterly adorable in their brief time on screen together. The fight that introduces us to the battling couple looks tedious in the trailer, but it's actually bright and funny, with Sam lobbing some good one-liners straight out of self-help books at the befuddled Jerry. He suggests she might be less than perfect. She cocks an eyebrow at him in disbelief. "Are you blame-switching?" she screeches at him. We're watching two professionals in top form here, operating on a scale of cuteness mere mortals can only witness on the silver screen.

But the real treat of chemistry in this movie turns out to be that between Gandolfini and Roberts. His gruffness, not vastly different from that of his cable-TV Tony Soprano character, is a perfect foil for her sparkle. Turns out he's a gay hit man with a heart, and kind of into self-help, too, and they bond over that. Soon they're offering each other romantic advice and cheerfully sharing a bathroom like longtime housemates (there's a lot of toilet action in this movie). You sense a "Will & Grace"-like future ahead of them. Leroy gives Sam the real romantic lesson of the movie, posing the question "When two people love each other, when is enough enough?" and then supplying her with the answer: "Never." A therapist might not agree with this assessment, but it works for Sam.

The movie's biggest problem, beyond its plot holes, lies with Leroy's departure from the action. Not only are we unsettled by his exit, but a substantial amount of the picture's light goes with Gandolfini. Somehow, an overweight dude with furtive eyes stole the show from Brad and Julia, and even constellations as bright as they can't make us stop wishing he'd pop up again.

("How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?")

■ "Nihil curio de ista tua stulta superstitione." ("I'm not interested in your doozy religious cult.")

■ (At a poetry reading) "Nullo metro compositum est." ("It doesn't rhyme.")

■ "Feles mala! Cur cista non uteris? Stramentum novum in ea posui." ("Bad kitty! Why don't you use the cat box? I put new litter in it.")

■ (At a barbecue) "Animadvertisit, ubicunque stes, fumum recta in faciem ferri?" ("Ever noticed how wherever you stand, the smoke goes right into your face?")

■ "Vah! Denuo Latine loquerar? Me ineptum. Interdum modo elabitur." ("Oh! Was I speaking Latin again? Silly me. Sometimes it just sort of slips out.")

And finally, a perfect one coming from a TV reporter: ■ "Quomodo cogis comes tuas sic videri?" ("How do you get your hair to do that?")

Thanks, Tony. "Illigitimi non carbonundum."

E-mail Bill at newsman@sonic.net.

Brainard

FROM PAGE C3

of high school, lured there by a couple of poet friends from home. He quickly got to know many of the "New York School" of poets, including John Ashberry, Frank O'Hara and Kenneth Koch, and the man who would become his lifelong companion, poet and librettist Kenward Elmslie. Brainard collaborated with these and other poets on many books, cartoon projects and paintings. He supplied the images; they supplied the words. By the early 1970s, Brainard had created illustrations or covers for more than a hundred books.

Elmslie, who still lives in New York, points out that times have changed; the art world has become more corporate since Brainard was working. "Back then there was a connection between poets and visual artists," he said in a phone interview. "That was in the air. The painters and poets mixed. I think it was lucky for Joe and it was lucky for the poems."

Elmslie recalled that Brainard was an avid shopper and gift-giver,

easily seduced by kitsch in the storefront windows of his downtown neighborhood. "He was very gentle and very sweet-natured," Elmslie recalled. "Shopping and giving gifts were an extension of making assemblages. He always had a sharp eye. He would see something in the gutter and turn it into art."

Like pop artists Roy Lichtenstein and Andy Warhol, Brainard sometimes appropriated commercial imagery; you can see this in his brilliant-green bead-and-bauble construction called "Prell" and in his painting of a 7-Up label. But he was not to be defined by pop or any other art movement. "A lot of artists have their own aesthetic, and are trying to prove the aesthetic," Elmslie said. "I don't think Joe bothered with it. His work connects directly with the viewer."

Elmslie, now in his 70s, recalled that he met Brainard at a poetry reading aboard the Staten Island ferry. "It was during Vietnam. A bunch of poets were protesting the war," he said in a phone interview. "That was in the air. The painters and poets mixed. I think it was lucky for Joe and it was lucky for the poems."

Elmslie recalled that Brainard was an avid shopper and gift-giver,

ing it a twist."

In later years, Brainard did most of his formal oil paintings of still-lifes and landscapes during visits to Elmslie's Vermont summer home.

Brainard's main artistic energy in the '70s was driven in part by his use of amphetamines. "He had a drug problem that took him over," Elmslie said. "He kicked the habit." Afterward Brainard lost interest in showing his art publicly, Elmslie recalled.

"He quit the art world. But he did work for friends and people he felt an emotional tie to."

"Then he came down with AIDS and couldn't work," Elmslie added. "He went downhill quickly." Brainard died in 1994 of AIDS-related pneumonia.

Some of his friends and collaborators, including Elmslie, will be giving public readings next month in conjunction with the exhibit.

"I think that those who were close to him are really pleased (with the show)," Elmslie said. "He's being placed more fully in the art world, which should help."

"He was very viewer-friendly," Elmslie said. "Entertainment is an odd word in the art world, but he liked to entertain people."

Elmslie, now in his 70s, recalled that he met Brainard at a poetry reading aboard the Staten Island ferry. "It was during Vietnam. A bunch of poets were protesting the war," he said in a phone interview.

"That was in the air. The painters and poets mixed. I think it was lucky for Joe and it was lucky for the poems."

Elmslie recalled that Brainard was an avid shopper and gift-giver,

sits reading in Central Park. He is, to all appearances, neat, conventional, orderly and well-to-do. A secound man enters. The antithesis of the first man, the new arrival is unkempt, undisciplined, obviously a troubled vagrant.

Lonely, drained of hope, the new man is also desperately in need of companionship and communication. He tries to satisfy his needs by approaching the reading man, who is both frightened and repelled.

Relentlessly, the vagrant persists in his passion, draining the first man until both are on a level, as he tells about his visit to the zoo. A vigorous and insightful character study.

"The American Dream" features Pennell Chaplin, Marilyn Kamel-garn, Bruce Lundy, Roe Lusk and Jerry Teitel. It's as moving as "Zoo," but funnier.

The story is about Mommy, a domineering and driven wife grappling with the idea of putting Grandma in a nursing home, and Daddy, her long-suffering husband who couldn't care less.

Enter Grandma, lugging boxes of belongings that she stacks by the door. What's up? Mommy and Daddy can't imagine what's in those boxes and Grandma isn't talking.

Send items of interest to Jack Tucker at P.O. Box 100, Pinole, CA 94564; fax to 510-262-2776; e-mail to jtucker@actives.com, or call 510-262-2788. Include a contact name and number.

Fuller, March 11, 5 p.m. A program of works by Bach, Mozart, Debussy, Copland and Berlin.

\$17 general; \$12 seniors and children. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. (415) 392-4400.

Julia Morgan Center For The Arts — San Francisco Conservatory of Music, March 6 and March 7, 8 p.m. John McCarthy directs outstanding students from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Preparatory Division through a performance of works by Sovi, Barber, and others. Part of the Young Emerging Artists Series. \$10 general; \$5 seniors and students.

"Brundibar Children's Opera," March 11, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. "Brundibar" by Czech composer Hans Krása is a folktale opera where good triumphs over evil. The opera was performed 55 times at the concentration camp of Theresienstadt. For ages 9 and above. \$24 general; \$12 youths age 9 to 18. 2640 College Avenue, Berkeley. (925) 798-1300.

Music Sources — Performer and Clavichordist Richard

Grant directing, March 11, 5 p.m. A performance of Durufle's "Requiem" with organist Jonathon Dimmock.

\$20 general; \$15 seniors and students. First Presbyterian Church, 2619 Broadway, Oakland. (415) 705-0848 or www.pacificmozart.org

Oakland East Bay Symphony — "Michael's Prodigies Takes the Stage," Scott Parkman conducting, March 16, 8 p.m. Guest artist: pianist Elizabeth Morgan, winner of the 2000 Young Artist Competition. Parkman, the symphony's assistant conductor and principal conductor of the Oakland Youth Orchestra, is one of Michael Morgan's most promising protégés. Parkman conducts a program of works by Tchaikovsky, Ravel and Chen Yi.

\$15 to \$55. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 625-8497 or (415) 421-8497.

Pacific Mozart Ensemble — Richard Grant directing, March 11, 5 p.m. A performance of Durufle's "Requiem" with organist Jonathon Dimmock.

\$20 general; \$15 seniors and students. First Presbyterian Church, 2619 Broadway, Oakland. (415) 705-0848 or www.pacificmozart.org

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American Red Cross

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March 30 8:00 pm

March 31 8:00 pm

April 1 2:00 pm

April 5 7:00 pm

April 6 8:00 pm

April 7 8:00 pm

Tickets: \$6.00 Students \$8.00 Adults

Location: www.stjosephlearningcenter.org

St. Joseph Learning Center

1910 San Antonio Ave. Alameda

Reserved Seating and Information:

Call Didi Kubicek 510-523-1526

Handbell Ensemble Sonos - "Bach to Berlin," March 4, 4 p.m. A perfor-

ation by the Handbell Ensemble Sonos.

Reviews

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

The Buddy Club Children's Show is from 1-2 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at the Albany Community Center Theater, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. The program features pro comic and juggler Fred Anderson and singer James K. Tickets: \$7 per person, under 2 free. Call 236-SHOW for tickets and information, or visit www.TheBuddyClub.com.

The City of El Cerrito offers special programs for children from 22 months to five years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Moeser Lane. For more information, call Jude, 215-4371.

LGBTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyprogram@ya-hoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

The Ann Martin Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups for Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley's public science museum and center for K-12 science and math education offers three residential summer science camps, including two camps held at actual University of California field research stations; and three Sierra backpacking summer science camps. Each camp emphasizes fun outdoor science explorations through hands-on, inquiry-based activities, as well as lots of traditional camp fun. Each camp has a unique theme, and is designed for a specific age group. Call 642-2275 or e-mail to: lshinfo@uclink.berkeley.edu. To register, call 642-5134.

"Theater Rats" Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education; drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way: 848-6370; \$5 - \$10.

Community

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment.

To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education.

For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

Mariann Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-6806.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

Overeaters Anonymous meets Fridays at 1:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues. In Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? For further information, call

Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice-Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

"Work Buddies"; volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic; 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 1-800-642-9355.

SMART project; the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-In-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

The Women's Cancer Resource Center Gallery, 3023 Shattuck Ave., presents Chicano Art and Visions of David Tafolla March 5 through April 12. The artist reception is 1-3 p.m. Saturday, March 10. Tafolla paints acrylic and oil canvases vivid with color and Latino imagery.

Regular gallery hours are Tuesdays through Thursdays, 1-7 p.m.; Saturday, 12-4 p.m., and by appointment. Call 548-9286, ext. 307, for more information.

UC Berkeley Art Museum continues its installation by Brazilian artist Ernesto Neto through April 15. Neto creates sensual sculptural works that provoke viewers to interact. For this exhibition, his first solo museum exhibition on the West Coast, Neto creates a site-specific installation in the Phyllis Wattis Matrix Gallery that deals in themes of sensuality and touch. Call 642-0808 for more information.

The Albany Arts Committee announces the opening of a new exhibit, "Three-Ply," tapestries by local artist Care Stanley. This selection of tapestries embraces the complexity and subtleties involved in creating textiles woven on a loom. The exhibit is on display March 4 through May 24 at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. The opening reception is 4-6 p.m. Sunday, March 4. Call 524-9283 for more information.

Bentley School presents "Stone Carving," an art show featuring the soapstone carvings of African artists from Zimbabwe and Bentley student artists (grades 5 through 8) from 5-8 p.m. on March 6-7 at Shanware Gallery, 4176 Piedmont Ave. Gala opening event is from 5-8 p.m. on March 6. For more information, call David Herschkop at 843-2512 at Bentley School or Lillian White at Shanware Gallery at 923-1222.

Tayrick Gallery, 1316 Tenth St., presents two exhibitions: "New Paintings," by Amanda Hass, and "Recent Landscapes," by Olivia Kuser. The exhibitions continue through March 24. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. Call 527-1214 for more information.

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The Cecile Mochine Gallery, 1809 D Fourth St. (upstairs), presents an exhibition entitled "Lesson of Things," new works by Emily Payne, through March 11. Payne takes apart books and reassembles them into sculptural forms that use the spines, the pages and the cloth covers. This is a new series using the same method of taking apart another familiar object—shoes. For more information, call 549-1018.

The Kala Art Institute, 1060 Hanzel Ave., presents an exhibition of recent work in the complex and rarefied process known as photogravure through March 30. Developed in the 19th century and often referred to as "the aristocrat of photographic process," photogravure prints achieve luminous tones ranging from luminous whites to rich velvety blacks. Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, noon to 5 p.m., or by appointment. Call 549-2977 for more information.

Red Oak Realy's Art Gallery, 1891 Solano Ave., Berkeley, presents "Still Life and Landscapes," by artist Pamela Markmann through March 24. Viewing hours: Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. Call 527-3387 for more information.

The City of El Cerrito presents Open Clay Studio ongoing classes on Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Experience with clay is helpful, but not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore areas of clay work. Demonstrations and instruction will be provided on requests.

Admission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.50 non-residents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For more information, call Jude at 215-4371.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

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HILLS NEWSPAPERS • FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2001

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE

BINARY CODE

By GREG STAPLES / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Incurred
 - 6 ___-Cat
 - 9 Photo in a magazine office
 - 13 Former Communist Party source
 - 19 Giraffe kin
 - 20 Escape ___ (sci-fi vehicles)
 - 21 River spanned by the Poma Vecchio
 - 22 Worth more
 - 23 College intro course
 - 26 Words on an airport monitor
 - 27 Simple wind instrument
 - 28 Flower starter
 - 29 Whipped cream serving
 - 31 Ike's hometown
 - 34 Associated Press rival
 - 37 Zebras
 - 40 Stock
 - 41 Converted, in a way
 - 44 Show piece?
 - 46 Letters for a prince
 - 47 Baseballer Slaughter
 - 48 Hit list
 - 52 Hilo holl
 - 53 Casals or Picasso
 - 54 Some plums
 - 55 Dance in 2/4 time
 - 56 Author LeShan
 - 57 Some blowups
 - 59 Places for buses
 - 61 Visited site after site
 - 63 ___ "chic"
 - 66 Turn right side up
 - 67 Go a round or two
 - 68 St. Lawrence area
 - 72 ___ "no idea!"
 - 73 Some "Angels"
 - 77 Pole, e.g.
 - 78 Pull out
 - 80 Firmness
 - 82 Argentine grassland
 - 85 Greek letters
 - 86 Quickly, mailwise
 - 87 Conductor Solti
 - 90 Asian weight units
 - 91 Diminutive suffix
 - 92 Minnesota, promotionally
 - 95 Anarchists' foe, once
 - 96 Wayside stop
 - 97 Baron ___ Richthofen
 - 98 Unpopular camper
 - 99 Singer Bonnie
 - 100 Trident-shaped symbols
 - 102 Large basket
 - 105 They may be made over one's shoulder
 - 107 Astronaut Grissom
 - 109 Bank holding
 - 110 Plateau boundary
 - 113 For a spell
 - 116 G.M. truck line
 - 121 Part of a body of art?
 - 122 Celtic tongue
 - 123 Prefix with puncture
 - 124 Born yesterday, so to speak
 - 125 Portfolio listings
 - 126 Color close to copper brown
 - 127 Not hold one's tongue
 - 128 Bombeck and others
- DOWN**
- 1 Data storage site
 - 2 Letters on a police report
 - 3 Noted Turner
 - 4 Maintains
 - 5 Smitherens
 - 6 Dish usually served with sauce
 - 7 "Don't look at me!"
 - 8 God attended by two ravens and two wolves
 - 9 Carrier to Copenhagen
 - 10 Legal body
 - 11 Provide ___ (save face)
 - 12 Furniture cover, maybe
 - 13 All-___

14 One year in a trunk	15 Person with a couch?	16 Popular cable program	17 F.D.R. or J.F.K. Abbr.	18 "We ___ Family"	19 "Whew!"	20 Kind of bean	21 Upper arm band	22 Perpetual	23 Took a refresher course	24 First asteroid landed on by NASA craft	25 Tech.	26 Hardly princes	27 Beat it!"	28 Fashion magazine	29 Completely wasted	30 Head-___ (thorough)	31 Immigrant's class: Abbr.	32 Pass rejection?	33 One of a kind	34 Prefix with plastic	35 Epitome of easiness	36 Tiny amount	37 Ut on a pedestal	38 Flush	39 No more	40 Bolshoi rival	41 Smart dresser	42 Immigrant's "Daughter" (1970 film)	43 First half of an attention-getter	44 Lincoln, for one	45 Equals	46 Tiny amount	47 Part of a train perhaps	48 "Britannicus" dramatist	49 Hotel upgrade	50 More upscale	51 1960's jacket style	52 Lemon producer?	53 Hampshire hauler	54 Well, well!																																																																																																																																																																																																					
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Artist and poet combines diverse cultures, materials in his work

Community Folk

By Clara-Rae Genser

store of images." It is, he says, a religious, spiritual and cultural icon.

In explaining his work, he told me the story of the Lady of Guadalupe, who appeared before a bishop's aide and told him to go back and tell the bishop to erect a church in her honor. The image of the Lady appeared on his cloak. About this, too, Navar is very passionate and speaks of how it has affected his work.

"I went to Catholic schools," he points out. "Perhaps my deep rooted spirituality grew in the Catholic schools and the church. It certainly has influenced my work." He says he is pushing religions, and pushing optimism and belief in the planet and in the universal human race.

He says his poetry is a "way of celebrating art". Everything he writes is in Spanish and English. "I grew up in Oakland, in a bilingual setting: at home, in school, and among friends." His poetry is as passionate as his paintings

Much of Gabriel's art is done with recycled materials, "simply recycling materials that might otherwise end up in the dump." I find beauty in objects, he says, and I find symbolism in objects. The very nature of art is a window looking in and looking out."

He says he likes to use objects others might consider mundane. "I like the simplicity, the universal nature of it." And, he says, he uses these things for financial reasons, also. "Instead of going out to buy the super-expensive supplies, I may not have to spend a cent, just recycling something that may actually have a story in itself. I look at it as an artist and transform it."

"Mexico is my roots," he says. The Navar family came to Mexico from Spain through Cuba and stayed in Durango. Gabriel is the oldest of five children, four boys and one girl. His sister is the youngest and is now in college.

Gabriel earned his associate arts degree in social sciences at the College of Alameda, his bachelor's in studio art at Cal State Hayward, and his master's in fine arts at San Jose State University.

His list of exhibits, both solo and group, is much too long to list

here, but, as noted, it encompasses many places, many groups, and much diversity, including some held in Germany.

He has also done some teaching, and has been a substitute teacher, and a guest art instructor. He has held workshops and has directed school murals, including his own work as part of the mural. He said he really enjoyed working with children on art.

Because he always had an affinity for writing, his poetry, too, has been on exhibit. Some of it is in a song collection.

He has worked in art auctions and has been a juror in art. In other words, he's an all around dedicated artist/poet.

And he enjoys his work, enjoys life, enjoys people, and delights in interviews such as ours. It was lovely for me, also. I love people

who are passionate about what they do.

Thank you, Diane, N., for suggesting Gabriel Navar to me. It has been lovely meeting him. And I invite all of you to give me your ideas: interesting people, events, organizations, etc. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706, or call 525-4585. My email is crgenser@aol.com



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Calendar

FROM PAGE C7

such as cooking, sewing and art. Financial assistance always available. For more information, call 525-1130.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., offers a family-friendly program of classes, workshops and activities taught by professional teaching artists, all aimed at bringing arts participation into people's everyday lives. Classes take place at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts. For more information, including complete class descriptions, fees, and instructor bios, see www.juliamorgan.org or call 845-8542 for a brochure.

The Berkeley Adult School (BAS) offers Adult Basic Education classes, High School Diploma Requirement classes, General Educational Development Preparation classes which can be utilized to earn a GED certificate, and Preparation for US Citizenship classes. The classes are free. BAS also offers, for an affordable fee, a variety of vocational classes and computer classes, ranging from introduction to Computers to Advanced Computer Applications. Call 644-6130 for additional information.

The South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St., offers a variety of classes. For additional information and class scheduling, call 883-5222.

Interview Clinics sponsored by Turning

Point Center at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, are held on Monday mornings from 9-11 by appointment. 30-minute sessions are \$15 for YWCA members and \$20 for non-members. Call the Center at 848-6370 and leave a message to reserve an appointment time. Be sure to leave a name and telephone number.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, presents Scribble Time on Tuesdays, by appointment. The class is free to YWCA members. This technique is designed to help individuals understand themselves better. Call 848-6370 for additional information. Leave a message for Anne Levine.

The Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., presents an introductory class for the home fruit grower. Proper pruning increases the flavor and size of fruit, as well as preserves the health and longevity of the tree. There will also be a demonstration of various pruning tools. The class is taught by Greg Peck, owner of an organic landscape and garden design business in the East Bay. Cost is \$10 for nonmembers; \$7.50 for members. Call 548-2220 to reserve a space.

The van der Zanden Studio, 1025 Car-

See CALENDAR, Page C10

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Calendar

FROM PAGE C9

Itron, No. 9, offers sculpture classes. All levels. Call 843-9445 for additional information.

A CopWatch class takes place every Monday night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 2022 Blake St., near Shattuck. Know your rights. The classes are free. Call 548-0425 for additional information.

Berkeley Community Media (BCM), Channel 25, offers affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BCM to the public are held on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 2239 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. For more information call 848-2288 and ask for Patrick or Sage.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., offers many dances classes ranging from Afro-Cuban to Kalaripayattu Dances of India, to West Coast Swing to Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing. The Ashkenaz is a non-profit music and dance community center. Call 525-5054 for additional information.

Life Stories/Collage and Ceramics classes forming at St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave., Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Free. Sponsored by Berkeley Adult School. Teachers are Diana Bohn and Judith Carroll. Call 845-6830 for additional information.

Contemporary Women's Issues class is forming at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St. Free class offered by the Berkeley Adult School, taught by Judith Carroll, MFCC. Friday mornings 10 a.m. to noon, open to all women 55 or older. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

Dance and Fitness Classes open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, bellydancing, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, theatre dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-\$10. Information: 848-6370.

Let's Swing and Jitterbug: 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Diana Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

Volunteers

PediatricCare provides on-going support groups for families coping with illness, grief or loss within the family. Groups meet weekday evenings in Oakland and Walnut Creek. Fees are on a sliding scale. Call PediatricCare at 531-7551 for more information.

American Cancer Society seeks volunteers for its Daffodil Days. Until March 8, daffodils, the first flower of spring and the symbol of hope for a cancer-free world—will be sold to benefit the American Cancer Society's groundbreaking research, community education, legislative advocacy and patient service programs. Volunteers can help by distributing order forms; organizing daffodil sales in the workplace or community; planning flower delivery routes, arranging bouquets or delivering flowers. For more information call 1-877-891-HOPE.

The Alcohol Research Group (ARG) is conducting a study funded by a grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). The goal of the study is to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. The study is called the SMART Project. Interested parties may call 1-888-249-8802 for more information.

The Crisis Support Services of Alameda County needs volunteers to provide telephone crisis intervention. The agency needs motivated committed people to serve its 24-hour crisis lines. No prior experience required. Excellent training provided. Call 848-1515 for more information.

Volunteers are needed at the Alameda County Community Food Bank to staff emergency food referral service, the Hunger Hotline. Shifts are available on Monday and Tuesday mornings, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Call volunteer coordinator Mary Schoen at 834-FOOD for more information and a current volunteer newsletter.

Contra Costa County Volunteers in Probation are continually seeking dependable volunteers, 21 years plus, who want to spend time with youth on probation. Training will be provided and screening of all applicants is required by the Probation Department. If you are interested, call Kat Thompson, Director of Volunteers in Probation 925-313-4187 or email kthompson@cdm.ca.gov.

The City of Albany Recreation and Community Services Department is seeking experience fitness instructors in many areas of exercise and training, including Tiny tot tumbling, rompergym, acrobatics, youth dance, adult aerobics and yoga. If you have experience and have taught contact Recreation supervisor, John Medlock at 924-9283 or come by the Albany Community center at 1249 Marin avenue for an instructor application.

UC Botanical Garden is looking for volunteers who are interested in plants and who would like to learn how to give tours of the Garden. Knowledge of plants is useful, but not required, and prior teaching experience is also helpful, but not essential. Principal qualifications are to like plants and to enjoy people. The training teaches about the Garden and how to lead tours. Call 633-11924 for more information and an application.

The Richmond Public Library seeks Internet Docents to teach Internet skills and to provide hands-on assistance to library patrons. Volunteers are needed for the main library Adult Department, the Children's Department, and the Bayview or West Side branch libraries. Volunteers agree to work with the public for at least one three-hour slot per week for a three month period. Solid Internet skills, including knowledge of Netscape Navigator, Internet Explorer and the ability to use two search engines well are required. Applications are available at the information desk at the main library or at the two branches. For more information, call 620-6561.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley needs volunteers. The center

serves women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 548-6933.

Volunteers needed at Good Stuff Thrift Shop in El Cerrito. A fun, friendly place to work, all proceeds benefit developmentally disabled children and adults. Call 528-9455 for additional information.

Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave., needs compassionate volunteers to help women with cancer through its information and referral hotline, library, or in-home practical support. Time requirements are two to four hours per week for 6-12 months. Call 548-9286 ext. 309 for an application, interview and more information.

Volunteer at the Crucible, 1035 Murray St. Sharpen skills and meet new people in

the community. All talents are appreciated. The Crucible is an educational collaboration of arts, industry and community. Call 843-5511 or e-mail crucible@jps.net for more information on how to get involved.

There is an immediate need for Home Delivered Meal volunteers at the "Open House" Senior Center to deliver noon day meals to the homebound in Kensington, El Cerrito, and Richmond Annex. For

more information, call Nichols at 215-4342.

Breast Cancer Action, an advocacy and activist organization aimed to inspire and compel the changes necessary to end the breast cancer epidemic, is seeking volunteers. A wide variety of volunteer opportunities, including events, activist and task force help, and office work during the week, are available. Call 415-243-9301, for additional information.

Berkeley's Women's Center needs off-site volunteers with mailings, fund-raising, holiday programs. Training for all volunteers who are new to the Center. Other opportunities include answering phones and doing administrative functions. To wish to volunteer around call 5663 or 548-6933.

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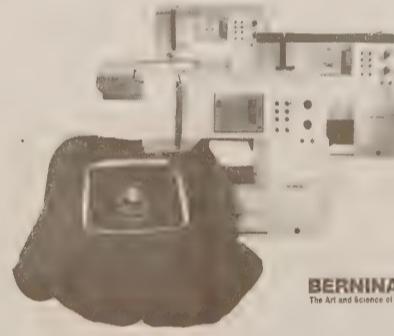
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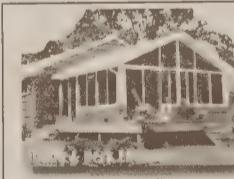
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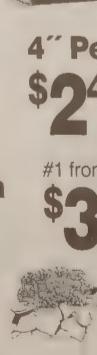
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March 2, 2001

Section D

Classic Classics Powerful pinstriped '68 Pontiac GTO [D3]

drive, Sir Said

By Denise
McCluggage

Where to go
to find a guy
like Gilbert

The symptoms presented by the ailing
were as annoying as they were erratic:
interior lights worked sometimes, but
always; the radio was often as colicky
as a newborn, and the front speakers
screamed not at all.

After some \$600 had been left at one
place with nothing positive to show for it,
the vehicle found its way to a nondescript
garage on Apache Street in Santa Fe. A
sign on the roof read "Ernie's"; one
on the street was more explicit: "Ernie's".

My friend, who bills himself as a Per-
sonal Auto Consultant, was following the
lead of a client, the disillusioned owner
of S.U.V.

"It's not me," she had said. My friend
had relished trying to assure a prospective
customer that the flaws didn't hurt the vehicle
or transportation was concerned. He
wasn't frustrated; reverberates through
experience of ownership. Soon that dis-
cernment would reflect back to him, and
business depended on customer satis-
faction. However, the SUV went to Ernie's. The
next place of the failed therapy was in a
new building, and the floor in the
reception room was shiny. A receptionist had

See DRIVE, Page D2



TOYOTA HIGHLANDER is available with a 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine or a bigger 3.0-liter V-6 engine that produces 220 horsepower.

2001 Toyota Highlander loaded with luxury

■ Car-like ride, powerful engines
put this SUV in the Lexus class

Why is Toyota attacking its sibling?

The 2001 Toyota Highlander sport utility vehicle will definitely lure customers from Toyota's sister company, Lexus, maker of the RX 300 SUV. The latter is an upscale, top-of-the-line manufacturer.

The Highlander is a mid-size SUV built on a unibody platform rather than a truck

frame. The wisdom behind this approach is that most people prefer a car-like ride, and only 5 percent of the SUV owners ever take their vehicle off-road. Therefore, a comfortable, quiet interior was the primary consideration when the Highlander went on the drawing board. What came off the drawing board is a luxurious, easy-to-manage dream machine.

Keane on Wheels

By Tom Keane

Admittedly, I viewed my tester had the bigger 3.0-liter V-6 engine that produces 220 horsepower. What impressed me most about the engine's performance is how quietly it ran, even under hard acceleration. All Highlanders are equipped with a four-speed electronically controlled automatic transmission with snow mode. At the same time, the full-time 4x4 feature provides traction when the road become hazardous.

Although available with a 2.4-liter four-

See KEANE, Page D2

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UP A LEVEL

The GMC Terracross concept reinvents the SUV, and builds on the brand's "industrial precision" design vocabulary by showing just how sleek and stylish a rugged and highly functional vehicle can be.

According to Lynn Myers, Pontiac-GMC general manager, Terracross is not simply another SUV, but is also a pickup and five-seat convertible — all in one highly efficient and versatile package.

It appeals to young, urban professionals and people of all ages with a strong appreciation for functionality, innovation and surprising capability.

DID YOU KNOW?

If your emission control system fails because of a defective part, whether or not the part failure causes your car's emissions to exceed federal emission standards, the manufacturer is required by law to pay the repairs for the first five years or 50,000 miles.

Numerous money-saving tips can be found in Mary Jackson's book "The Greaseless Guide to Car Care," from John Muir Publications.

GET FREE CHECKUP

Bridgestone/Firestone is now providing a free e-mail service to remind motorists when they should check the inflation pressure of their tires.

The service is just one component of the company's new Internet Web site, www.tiresafety.com.

The site also provides other information focusing on tires and safety.



GMC REINVENTS THE SUV with the super-stylish Terracross.

Drive

FROM PAGE D1

smiled and offered coffee. The technicians had scripted names over their breast pockets. The \$600 left behind could go a long way in buying floor wax and Styrofoam cups. Ernie's is more obviously a workplace.

No receptionist.

Nonetheless, Gilbert, who wore a shirt without the inscription, found the trouble that had stumped the other technicians and fixed it just like that.

What was the difference? Well, of course, Gilbert had the advantage of knowing what hadn't worked for the other guys, but more important: he thought guys like a car.

If you think like a car, you say to yourself: "What might someone have done to me that makes me act this way?"

The others thought: "What part is faulty in this car so that my replacing it will make it work right?"

Gilbert told my friend: "Someone spilled a Coke on the dash, and it leaked down to the wires."

He carefully wiped the wires clean and everything worked again. All at

a fraction of what the not-fixing had cost. How did Gilbert know it was a Coke?

Well, it was sticky and brown. Could it have been a Pepsi or Dr. Pepper? Only determining the taste preferences of the SUV drivers could pin that down.

But two points emerge here: If you spill something on your instrument panel, don't assume that cleaning up the surface is the end of the matter.

At least make a note of the event so if a problem emerges later, you might have some inkling of a cause.

The other point: Find someone like Ernie's and someone like Gilbert. Someone who thinks like a car.

How? Of course, such individuals are rare in every repair shop. They are rare and getting rarer with the emphasis these days on the ability to interpret computers and less on an intuitive affinity for things mechanical.

But quite likely someone with the right mindset and useful abilities is not far from you — known to someone you know or someone you can find.

Here are suggestions how to recruit the mechanics and technicians who think like a car.

Ask people in parking lots who have cars like yours: "Where do you have your car worked on and are you happy with the place?"

Ask friends and fellow workers. Ask in the barbershop. Stop by a fire station and ask the guys there. Ask a cop.

Check out sports car clubs, single-marque owner clubs (Miata, Mustangs, Corvettes, Prowlers, etc.) and ask members for recommendations. They usually are picky about who touches their cars.

Drive about in areas given to machinists' shops, transmission repair and A/C specialists looking for places like "Ernie's Auto." Ask at any place that exudes sympathetic vibes:

"Would you mind giving me phone numbers of regular customers?"

Then call the people and ask them about their experiences with the shop.

My friend suggests that when you find a well-recommended shop, open your dealings with the words: "I can only hope that you live up to your reputation."

Small shops realize that word of mouth is their lifeline. Your words tie you into that continuum.

Keane

FROM PAGE D1

More features to help prevent the Highlander from getting out of hand during on-road challenges are electronic Vehicle Skid Control, plus its mechanical companion: traction control.

These lifesaving options keep a driver from losing control when a quick turn is unexpectedly required. Realizing these components were on my test vehicle, I elevated my opinion of the Highlander quite a few notches.

Other safety features, in addition to the front airbags, are front-seat belt pretensioners and force limiters, side-door impact beams, optional side-impact airbags, and daytime running lights. This vehicle also has a fuel cut system which activates automatically in a collision.

I was really impressed when I opened the door and climbed into the driver's seat. The optional leather package made me feel like my lap was sitting in luxury.

Even the doors had costly trim, which gave the entire interior atmosphere the feeling of class and quality.

Since the Highlander is built on a platform used by a sedan, the climb was not a momentous struggle. Nevertheless, the engineers managed to provide better ground clearance and ride height. As a result, this vehicle has many of the advantages of an SUV while retaining the ride quality and quiet interior noise level of a car.

An additional pleasant surprise was the overall appeal of the vehicle's interior. When I opened the rear door, the view was very inviting, perhaps due to the light tones of the leather, or the extra spaciousness for the legs or the attractiveness of the seats. The rear deck lid raises to a large storage area.

Whatever intangibles, the appearance is much more enticing than that in other SUVs — including the RX 300.

The heating and air conditioning systems are the type found only on upscale cars.

The eight-speaker sound system that plays both CD and cassettes is top-shelf quality and among the best systems provided in all SUVs.

It will be interesting to see what happens when the other shoe drops. I know the Lexus people aren't going to take the Highlander lying down.

I'm sure they'll make every attempt to raise the bar and challenge Toyota, but as I see it, Lexus has a tough act to follow.

Specifications: 2001 Toyota Highlander

VEHICLE TYPE	5-passenger, 4-door 4X4 sport utility vehicle
BASE PRICE	\$26,495 (as tested: \$34,605)
ENGINE TYPE	V6 VVT-i 24-valve w/3-stage induction
DISPLACEMENT	3.0-liter
HORSEPOWER (net)	220 at 5800 rpm
TORQUE (lb-ft)	222 at 4400 rpm
TRANSMISSION	4-speed automatic ETC
WHEELBASE	107 in. 2717 mm
TREAD (front/rear)	62 / 62 in. 1574/1574 mm
OVERALL LENGTH	184 in. 4673 mm
OVERALL WIDTH	72 in. 1828 mm
HEIGHT	68 in. 1727 mm
TURNING (curb-to-curb)	37 ft. 11.2 m
CURB WEIGHT	3,880 lbs. 1759 kg
FUEL CAPACITY	18 gals. 68 L
EPA MILEAGE RATING	18 city, 22 highway
ASSEMBLY PLANT	Kyushu, Japan
STRONG FEATURE	Quiet, comfortable ride
WEAK FEATURE	None detected

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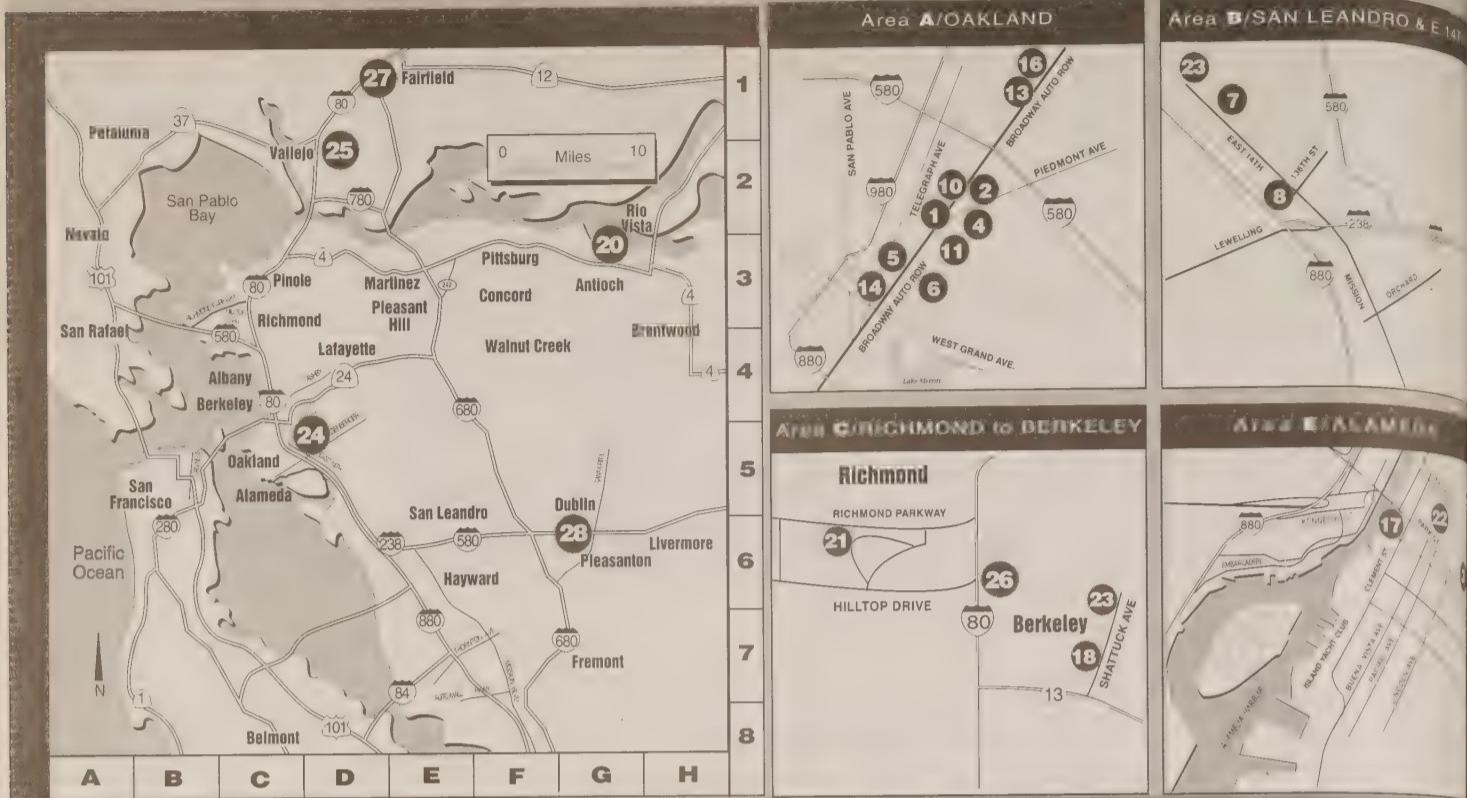
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2424 Clement, Alameda
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(510) 523-5246

TOYOTA Toyota of Berkeley
2400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
(510) 845-2530

MCKEVITI VOLVO
AMERICA'S OLDEST VOLVO DEALERSHIP
Oakland Showroom
800/845-3204
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KIA
Lloyd Wise Kia
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TOYOTA NISSAN
3255 Hilltop Auto Plaza
(510) 243-2020

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Audi, Porsche Dodge,
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Marina Square
Auto Center
1066 Marina Blvd.
San Leandro
(510) 251-8300

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Marina Square
Auto Center
1152 Marina Blvd., San Leandro
(510) 347-4000

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4145 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
(510) 547-4436

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4145 Broadway
Auto Row
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Serving the Bay Area for 30 years.
24th & Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
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3. Good Chevrolet Area E
1630 Park St., Alameda
(510) 522-9221
2. Val Strong Chevrolet Area A
Back on Broadway's "Broadway Auto Row"
3330 Broadway, Downtown Oakland, Broadway Auto Row
(510) 658-4700

Chrysler

22. Cavanaugh Motors Area E
1700 Park Street, Alameda
(510) 523-5246
75 years serving Alameda

Dodge

20. Antioch Dodge G-3
Corner of Somersville & W. 10th St.
(925) 778-9700
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Serving the Bay Area for 30 years
4th & Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
(510) 893-7282
26. Smith Dodge Area C
12300 San Pablo Ave., Richmond
(510) 215-4700

Ford

6. Broadway Ford Area A
2560 Webster, Oakland
(510) 832-8800

GMC

24. GMC Truck Center C/D-5
"Great Deals to the Public"
8099 S. Coliseum Way, Oakland
(510) 577-5528
www.truckcenters.com
8. Marina Square Auto Center Area B
1066 Marina Blvd., San Leandro
(510) 251-8300

Honda

10. Doten Honda
2600 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley
(510) 843-3704

Hyundai

10. Val Strong Hyundai Area A
Back on Broadway's "Broadway Auto Row"
3329 Broadway, Downtown Oakland, Broadway Auto Row
(510) 658-4700

Kia

7. Lloyd Wise Kia Area B
10550 E. 14th St. (International Blvd.) Oakland
(510) 638-4000

Mazda

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Back on Broadway's "Broadway Auto Row".
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(510) 658-4700

Mitsubishi

14. Negherbon Mitsubishi Area A
Bay Area's Newest Mitsubishi Dealer
4th & Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
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Nissan

12. Marina Square Auto Center Area B
1152 Marina Blvd., San Leandro
(510) 347-4000
20. Antioch Nissan G-3
1615 West 10th St.
(925) 755-2600
21. Hanlees Hilltop Nissan Area C
3277 Hilltop Auto Plaza
(510) 222-4900
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2700 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
(510) 848-2206

Porsche

14. Negherbon Porsche Area A
Serving the Bay Area for 30 years
24th & Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
(510) 893-7282

Saab

15. Downtown Saab/Subaru Area A
4145 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
(510) 547-4436
www.downtownsubaru.com

Saturn

14. Saturn of Oakland Area A
2355 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
(510) 839-6400

Subaru

15. Downtown Saab/Subaru Area A
4145 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
(510) 547-4436
www.downtownsubaru.com

Toyota

16. Downtown Toyota Area A
4145 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland
(510) 547-4436
www.downtowntoyota.com

Volkswagen

28. Dublin VW Area G-6
6015 Scarlett Court, Dublin
(exit Hopyard/Dougherty or Santa Rita
(925) 829-0800

Volvo

23. McKevitt Volvo Area B
2700 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
(510) 848-2206

McKevitt Volvo

23. McKevitt Volvo Area C
4030 International Blvd., Oakland
(510) 532-3778

Barber Volvo of Fairfield Area E-1

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2575 Magellan Rd., Fairfield
(707) 399-3179
www.barberauto.com

Job Network

The best place to find employment classified section in the greater East Bay Area

249 Employment Aids

250 Help Wanted

ACCOUNTING

Accounts Payable/ Receivable

Accounting Assistant
MSC Precision Steel Inc is a well-established steel coil coating galvanizing company. We have an immediate opening for an accounts Payable/Receivable position. Duties will include receiving and processing all invoices, payment inputting, accounts receivable, vendor, short term research and reporting and follow-up and collection duties.

The successful candidate will possess 2-4 years formal accounting education or equivalent combination of both, good data entry skills and 10-key by memory. Experience in AP & AR processes. Good computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, etc.). Professional communication skills required. BA or similar degree preferred.

We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits package.

Send resume to: MSC Precision Steel Inc.

Attn: Human Resources

945-932-1206, Fax: 925-932-1281

Fax resume to: 925-932-1281

Accountant

Jr. Staff

Responsible for AP, AR, anal-

ysis, etc. Must be non-profit.

Good benefits. Fax resume

to: 415-486-5423

ACCOUNTANT Non-profit

exp. pref. Payroll admin,

preferably non-profit.

Acc/calc/fiscal compliance.

Resume to: 415-486-5423

ACCOUNTANT Restaurant

East Bay for AP, AR, &

preferably non-profit.

Send resume to: T Valley

View Rd., San Leandro, CA

945-339-5207, Fax: 510-223-2718

ACCOUNTANT

Sr. Accountant near BART

Corporate H.Q. Various

counting function with an

emphasis on audit/report

and financial statement

Excellent salary/benefits

Fax resume to:

(925) 937-3203 or email

CareerImpact@pacifier.net

ACCOUNTANT
Un - Paid
Office of the Treasurer

\$ 36,000 - \$ 46,000

Marketing for investment

sub-agency for investment

marketing, accounting

systems daily, case activity

strategic planning, re-

porting, analysis, budgeting

etc. Good communication

skills required. BS in ac-

counting or finance or

mathematics or related

degree. Education in ac-

counting or related expe-

rience. In investment

accounting, financial ca-

reability and aptitude with

numbers. Excellent com-

puter skills and computer

based programs. Send re-

sume to: USCI Human Re-

source, 1111 10th Street,

Fifth Floor, Oakland, CA

94607-5200, e-mail to:

ap@usci.com or attach re-

sume to: ap@usci.com

ACCOUNTANT Walnut

Creek property, inc. co-

untered to present monthly

financials. AP, AR, &

Exp./Accts. pref. or M/F

a plus. F/T w/benefits. FAX

resume to: 925-945-0751

249 Employment Aids

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250 Help Wanted

ACCOUNTING

Accounts Payable/ Receivable

Accounting Assistant
MSC Precision Steel Inc is a well-established steel coil coating galvanizing company. We have an immediate opening for an accounts Payable/Receivable position. Duties will include receiving and processing all invoices, payment inputting, accounts receivable, vendor, short term research and reporting and follow-up and collection duties.

The successful candidate will possess 2-4 years formal accounting education or equivalent combination of both, good data entry skills and 10-key by memory. Experience in AP & AR processes. Good computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, etc.). Excellent communication skills required. BA or similar degree preferred.

We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits package.

Send resume to: MSC Pre-

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Attn: Human Resources

945-932-1206, Fax: 925-932-1281

Fax resume to: 925-932-1281

Accountant

METRO 1 Credit Union has openings in their Corporate Office in Walnut Creek. Direct

and organized work environment.

Good computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, etc.).

Excellent communication

skills required. BA or simi-

lar degree preferred.

We are looking for a job with flexible hours. Rapidly growing company. We offer professional development opportunities for advancement. Come work for us!

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Equal Opportunity Employer

AA/EEO

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Need a S.A.P. just now? Come for RAM, need power for RAV4, need ADVANCED for Forte 500, need a new Fortune 500, need a new and must fit into our company. No exp. positions, no minimum people req'd. Call 925-563-9257.

ANSWERING SERVICE OPERATOR

All shifts available, typing a min. of \$12/h - weekends \$22.50 - \$27.00

APARTMENT MAINT./PT.

Clean and maintain office, Own/lease, 2 times job Net-work, P.O. Box 1000, Walnut Creek, CA 94588

APARTMENT Maintenance

Use own tools & tank \$12/h - bonus, Call 925-421-5397

APARTMENT MANAGER

20 units, Oakland 1 bed-room Apt plus comm. desired, no res. comm. 1/1 AD, exp. pref.

510-420-8669

ARCHITECT/drafter

Sausalito, ASR firm

Seeks responsible designer

exp. in res. comm. 1/1 AD, exp. pref.

510-283-3232

ASSEMBLER FOR costume

creative mfr. exp. nec.

creative studio, envir.

1/12/01 - 25th Street, San Francisco

Call 415-930-2722

250 Help Wanted

ARCHITECTURE

MBH ARCHITECTS

Alameda CA

Expanding Office

We're named the 6th

largest architectural firm in

the Bay Area, and our peo-

ples are the right people

to do it. Why we're

so successful!

Currently, we are looking to

fill the positions listed be-

low:

• Williams-Sonoma Project

Manager

• Retail / Target/Best Buy

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people

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We offer a competitive

compensation/benefits

package and a work envi-

ronment that is hard to find

elsewhere.

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Collision Repair Tech.

CARAGE

• Collision Repair Tech.

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Bank of Walnut Creek,
Livermore, supervises op-
erational functions of
remote/efficient client ser-
vices; must demonstrate good
rootedness, integrity &
organize business opps.
FAX resume ONLY to: Job
Net, Attn: Human Resources,
mail #292-RW at 6201 1/2
Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
EOE/AAM/FD/V

BANKING
Bank of Walnut Creek,
Customer Services Clerk I,
Walnut Creek. Answer
phone, process incoming
correspondence, handle
credit ratings/VO's, block
new accounts at 925-292-4010
ext. 292-RW, Box 6080,
Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
EOE AA M/F/D/V

BANKING

**Customer Service
(Teller) Officer**
Downtown Pinole
Opportunity to supervise
operations and employees
in one of our busiest offi-
ces. Must have compre-
hensive knowledge of
bank operations, bank
policies and procedures.
Excellent leadership
and communication
skills. Able to coach,
motivate and train
others. Must demonstrate
humani-
ties skills. Write
effective memos, reports
and correspondence. Must
have excellent benefit
package and sabbatical
plan. Good computer literacy
through education and
experience. Applicants
should fax/send a resume

Peggy Goulet, Manager
Bank of the West, Pinole
3170 Hilltop Mall Rd
Richmond, CA 94806
Fax: (510) 285-7941
EOE

BANKING

First Bank, the largest and
strongest independent
bank in the nation, has
the following opportunity at
our Pinole branch:

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Use your sales expertise
to provide banking products
and services to retail banking
products. Televising calls on
marketing accounts can
allow you to achieve monthly sales
and develop new business opp-
portunities. A minimum of
years experience in financial
service, experience re-
quired.

Please send your resume
to: First Bank & Trust, Attn:
Marketing, 1000 Pinole
Towne Center, Pinole, CA
94567.

FAX: (707) 654-9876.
Email: firstbank@pbo1.fcc.
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www.bankofthewest.com

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Banking

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ORGANIZATION



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Bank of the West, a recognized leader in the financial industry, seeks the following:

Banking professionals for career opportunities in our Walnut Creek headquarters:

ASSET RECOVERY

**Auto
Remarketing Specialist**

Responsible for the liquidation functions of full-term lease auto units. Duties include remarketing automobiles at market price, utilizing published guides and market conditions to establish valuation estimates, attending auctions, visiting vendors and agents and preparing forecasts for future activities. Requires a strong background in customer service and an aptitude for determining unit condition, valuation and sale in the auto industry.

COMMERCIAL LOAN SERVICING

Operations Officer

Duties include supervising the Commercial Loan Servicing loan staff and assisting in the management of the Commercial Loan portfolio. Will supervise Loan Processors in the boarding/maintenance process. Must have excellent supervisory, communication, problem solving and PC/Word/Excel/Access skills. Previous operations experience and a college degree preferred.

LOAN ADMINISTRATION

Documentation Officer

Duties include assisting the hiring, training and supervision of a team of loan administrators. Chosen candidate will oversee the administration of the loan documentation portfolio consisting primarily of real estate secured construction loans to ensure orderly and efficient documentation and funding. Requires 5+ years experience as a senior loan administrator or equivalent work experience and supervisory skills a must. Thorough knowledge of MS Word, Excel and WordPerfect essential.

We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. For immediate consideration, please fax/fix resume with salary history and designating job title of interest to:

Bank of the West, Attn: Human Resources, 1450 Treat Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94596. FAX (925) 958-9151. EOE

www.bankofthewest.com

250 Help Wanted

BANKING

Fiserv Solutions, Inc. is an
independent provider of fi-
nancial systems and related info-
management services and
products to more than 10,000
banks, credit unions, mortgage and sav-
ings institutions.

**CLIENT SERVICES
MANAGER**

We are seeking outstanding
career opportunities for an
exp. manager/ knowledge of
item processing (re-
ceivables), collections, pre-
dictive modeling, and bank
credit ratings/VO's, block
new accounts at 6201 1/2
Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
Fax: (925) 292-4010 ext. 292-RW, Box 6080.

**DEPOSIT SERVICES
Representative**

Responsibilities: In-
charge of all deposit products
and services. Perform
work & transact, statement
processing and banking op-
erations. Duties will have 5 yrs exp
in banking client service.

Service Officer

Responsibilities: Super-
vision of operations staff in
branch office. Manage staff
operations, bank policies
and procedures. Must be
able to demonstrate
effective personnel
management skills. Write
effective memos, reports
and correspondence. Must
be drug free workplace.

**MORTAGE WHOLESALE
SALES
REPRESENTATIVE**

Responsibilities: Per-
form various functions
with bank deposit products
and services. Duties will have 5 yrs exp
in banking client service.

**Client Service
Representative**

Responsibilities: Per-
form various functions
with bank deposit products
and services. Duties will have 5 yrs exp
in banking client service.

**ITEM PROCESSING
SUPERVISORS**

FISERV

BANKING

Fiserv Solutions, Inc. is an
independent provider of fi-
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management services and
products to more than 10,000
banks, credit unions, mortgage and sav-
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**Best & Make
a Difference
Officer**

Greater Bay Bancorp, the
dynamic multi-bank holding
company, which includes
Merrill Lynch, Smith Barney
Bank, has immediate
openings for the following
positions at our Pleasanton,
Averyte, & Biscochino
branches.

**CREDIT SERVICES
OFFICER**

Seeking a professional to
analyze credit policies and
information to determine
eligibility and bank credit
trending functions. Duties
include analyzing credit
policy & procedure changes
and regulatory exams. Req.
progressively more responsible
and managerial activities. You
must possess solid knowl-
edge of lending principles,
banking procedures, bank
credit analysis, as well as
analytical, analytical, and
problem solving skills. Must
be detail oriented & possess
strong client service skills.
Requires computer literacy.
Bachelor's degree and
minimum 6 years experience
in banking.

Sales Representative

Requirements: Min. of 4
years bank operations exp
with sales, marketing, exp
in travel, sales, exp
in travel, exp in sales
and marketing.

**DEALER CENTER SALES
& MARKETING REP**

Seeking a dynamic, energetic
Sales & Marketing Rep
for our Dealer Center
Sales position. Must have
solid sales experience in the
automotive industry. Req.
knowledge of financial
analysis techniques.
Must have excellent
customer service skills.
Bachelor's degree and
minimum 6 months
experience.

**RECONCILEMENT
CLERKS**

Immediate openings for
Reconcilement Clerks.
FT/FI. FT/FI. Must have
have 1-2 yrs exp in
check processing, bank
clerk, exp in reconciliations
a plus.

SORTER OPERATIONS

Immediate openings for
operators. 12:00 a.m. to 8:00
a.m. a.m. to 8:00 a.m. graveyard
shift. Must have exp in
experience needed; will train.
Individual with check
processing, bank clerk
experience required. Must
have excellent interpersonal
communication and
more.

**INBOUND CALL
CENTER MANAGER**

Seeking a dynamic profes-
sional with extensive
experience in the auto
industry. Req. 4 yrs exp
in sales, marketing, exp
in travel, exp in sales
and marketing.

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Interior Trim
for custom res. Storey
level. Must have
exp in trim carpentry
and/or trim carpenter
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CUSTOMER SERVICE

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CUSTOMER SERVICE

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CUSTOMER SVC. Rep.

250 Help Wanted

DENTAL D.A.

250 Help Wanted

DENTAL RDA

250 Help Wanted

DRIVER

250 Help Wanted

EDUCATION

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ENGINEERING

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ENGINEERS

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Enviro, consulting firm in San Jose Bay Area seeks project manager for environmental remediation exp. (3 to 8 years) in the environmental field. System design, permitting, construction exp. req'd. Competitive salaries, quarterly bonuses, great benefits, 401(k), profit sharing, casual work environment. Send resume to joanne@enviro.com or fax to 925/944-2859

Financial Telephone Representative

- San Ramon, CA -

TIAA-CREF one of the largest financial services organizations in the U.S. has chosen to manage California's innovative new tax-deferred College Savings program. Our continued expansion in California has created exciting opportunities for professionals to join our San Ramon office.

In this position, you will plan and deliver the marketing, sales and outreach efforts for the Golden State Scholar Share Program. This will include conducting presentations throughout the State to the general public, identifying and prospecting major employers and planning and conducting targeted marketing campaigns.

Responsibilities:

* Respond to telephone inquiries made by prospective and existing account owners, performing product or service information, eligibility and availability entries.

* Analyze customer information to determine eligibility/suitability according to established guidelines

* Occasionally represent TIAA-CREF at outside information seminars, meetings and state fairs

Requirements:

* A Bachelor's degree

* Two plus years of financially related customer service experience

* NASD Series 6 & 63 certifications, Series 7 preferred

* Superior communication, interpersonal and analytical skills

* Bilingual Spanish/English is preferred

TIAA-CREF offers stability, diversity, and the chance to build a career in an environment where individual achievements are recognized and rewarded. You will enjoy a competitive compensation package including participation in two variable pay plans, comprehensive benefits, and an opportunity for career growth with a progressive industry leader.

To apply, please send resume to TIAA-CREF, San Ramon Staffing, JCB, 730 Third Avenue, San Ramon, CA 94571, Fax 212-916-5883, Email: staffing@tiaa-cref.org



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Only Candidates Under Consideration Will Be Contacted

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HUMAN RESOURCES
Personnel Administrator
Area? Stockton distribution
or office. Must have experience
in payroll, benefit admin., new hire
processing, experience of personnel files
Growing co. offers excellent
opportunity. Fax resume to:
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HUMAN RESOURCES

Branch Manager

HR Solutions
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Exceptional opportunity
with established and rapidly
growing company. We offer
research and consulting
firm regionally based in San
Francisco Bay Area. Joining
our operations to the
East Bay by opening a re-
tail store in Spring 2001.

We are seeking a Branch
Manager to build business
relationships and serve as
the liaison between our
West Coast/East Bay. In
addition to overseeing all
activities of our retail
Managers

Ideal candidates will have
3+ years' work experience
in sales, marketing, research
and consulting. Previous
experience in retail management
is mandatory to build a new sales territory.

If you have an interest in
expanding your skills, please contact Nicole Fox,
Managing Director, HR
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general supervision,
ability to exert
effort and dedication
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to operation;
Implementation
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Experience
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Skills and cover
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Fast paced mortgage

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skills & ability to work

in fast paced environment.

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some evenings. Must be

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RECEPTIONIST - F/T

Ans & route incoming calls,

greets visitors, answers

calls, directs, energetic,

friendly, w/excel. verbal

skills & exp. at 90+

hrs. per week. Fax resume

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San Ramon. \$25.85 hrly.

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8-5, M-F, part-time

answering calls, entering

data, filing, etc. Must be

able to type 20 wpm.

Excellent communication

skills & ability to handle

a heavy phone volume.

We offer excellent benefits & a competitive salary.

Send resume to: hrdept@bi-rad.com.

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Prof. appearance &

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co. word, Excel & exp.

SYSTEM 1 STAFFING

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RECEPTIONIST

PT, F/T, part-time, req'd.

Excellent communication

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Call 925-388-2300

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Switchboard Operator

The Contra Costa Newspapers

has an excellent opportunity for a

switchboard operator

to answer incoming

calls. Must be able to

work evenings & weekends.

Excellent communication

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in a fast-paced environment.

Call 925-388-2300

RECEPTIONIST

Ans. & route incoming calls,

greets visitors, answers

calls, directs, energetic,

friendly, w/excel. verbal

skills & exp. at 90+

hrs. per week. Fax resume

to 925/376-9183

RECEPTIONIST - F/T

Ans & route incoming calls,

greets visitors, answers

calls, directs, energetic,

friendly, w/excel. verbal

skills & exp. at 90+

hrs. per week. Fax resume

to 925/376-9183

RECEPTIONIST

Customer Service Manager

Inventory Control

Ans & route incoming calls,

greets visitors, answers

calls, directs, energetic,

friendly, w/excel. verbal

skills & exp. at 90+

hrs. per week. Fax resume

to 925/376-9183

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Food Service Supervisor

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ons. Must have 5 yrs.

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able to work evenings &

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RECEPTIONIST

Food Service Supervisor

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250 Help Wanted	250 Help Wanted	250 Help Wanted	250 Help Wanted	250 Help Wanted	250 Help Wanted	250 Help Wanted	254 Domestics	254 Domestics
HIPPIE & RECEIVING Computer Company has full time position for Shipping & Receiving position duties. Duties include tracking RMA & Loane equipment. Opportunity to learn computer technology, company knowledge and experience. Excellent benefits. Full time, part time & Great Plans. Call 1-800-640-8475	4 TEACHERS 4 Ask us about our comp., sal., brnts. & training! A developmental pre-school teacher position available for profit, to join our team. Our experienced, country-side setting ideal work enviro. F/T PT, three's & pre-K positi-	TELEMARKETERS San Ramon Investment/Financial Services needs experienced and professional full and part-time Telemarketers. Clients are immediate openings - highly competitive compensation package. Call Yvette Lewis at 925-820-2515.	TRAVEL AGENT for first returnee or successful international travel experience. \$750-\$1,000 per trip. To Danville. Resume to Jobgen@eas.com	VETERINARY TECH On exp. Asst. F/T, incl. Sat. days. progressive veterinary hospital looking for experienced, self-starting. Fax resume 925-942-4410	WELDER Asst. to supervisor. 510-632-8828, 510-632-6920.	TRAVEL Consultant If you like to sell cruises & tours call us now! F/T brnts. incentives, 55 yr old, fax 925-824-7404 @ 925-824-7404	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
SPORTS EDITOR The San Luis Obispo Tribune, a 28,000 daily, on the Central Coast, is seeking a sports editor to lead a great sports team. The Tribune is the best for its circulation category in the 2000 California newspaper association contest. Candidates must have worked as a sportswriter, preferably in a sports section, and be a competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TELEMARKETING Develop leads for office cleaning co. in San Ramon. 9-5 pm. Mon-Fri. Fax 925-824-7404. Bobbie 925-867-3860	TREE CARE Capwin & Doward is now accepting applications for Tree Climbers, part-time or full-time, reg. clean DMV & drug screening. 401k & benefits apply. EOE 800-891-7740	WAREHOUSE eve & evening warehouse pos avail for new warehouse. Shipping/receiving, pack, exp. exp. reg'd. pay & benefits. Call 510-567-0860	251 Independent Employment	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
Shipping & Receiving Company based in the Bay Area is looking for intelligent/energetic individual to handle incoming, shipping & receiving. Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TELEMARKETING opening in software co. Motivated indv. exp. high vol. unit sales exp. \$30K sal. potential. \$30K sal. comm. Fax 925-930-9183	WAREHOUSE/DELIVERY P/T position avail for morning & evenings. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Must have clean driving record. \$12.00/hour. Apply in person to Future Emporium, 811 University Ave., Berkeley	250 Help Wanted	250 Help Wanted	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
SHIPPING & RECEIVING Customer Svcs. Interested in job stability & a quiet place to live? Contra Costa County is looking for intelligent/energetic individual to handle incoming, shipping & receiving. Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TELEMARKETING opening for office cleaning co. in San Ramon. 9-5 pm. Mon-Fri. Fax 925-824-7404. Bobbie 925-867-3860	WAREHOUSE eve & evening warehouse pos avail for new warehouse. Shipping/receiving, pack, exp. exp. reg'd. pay & benefits. Call 510-567-0860	250 Help Wanted	250 Help Wanted	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
TECHNICAL SERVICES CLINICAL DIRECTOR Adolescent paying attention to treatment program in Foothill Indv., group, family & individual therapy. Case mgmt., superv. of team commun. liaison. Masterson, Inc. pres. S. D. Excel. Brnts. to Card. Box 841, Napa, CA. 94559	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TERMINATE INSPECTOR/ Aplicator for termite control. Must be experienced in pest control, commercial, residential, holidays, vac., med. dental, 401K, & Co. vehicle. Call Linda 1-800-244-1176	WAREHOUSE F/T 89-12 hr. DOE. Receiver, order delivery. Some cust. svcs. 925-622-0000. Connie 925-915-0000 or 901-0525	254 Domestics	254 Domestics	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
TECHNICAL SERVICES CHEF DEPUTY PUBLIC CONSERVATOR For application, contact Nevada County Human Services Agency-Adult & Juvenile Personnel Dept. or Mental Systems. Services. 414-2000 or visit our website at: www.cds.ca.gov	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TERMINATE INSPECTOR/ Aplicator for termite control. Must be experienced in pest control, commercial, residential, holidays, vac., med. dental, 401K, & Co. vehicle. Call Linda 1-800-244-1176	WAREHOUSE F/T 89-12 hr. DOE. Receiver, order delivery. Some cust. svcs. 925-622-0000. Connie 925-915-0000 or 901-0525	254 Domestics	254 Domestics	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
TECHNICAL SERVICES STAFF COORDINATOR San Marcos is seeking a departmental coordinator to do scheduling of staff and general office duties. Please call 925-259-1676	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TERMINATE INSPECTOR/ Aplicator for termite control. Must be experienced in pest control, commercial, residential, holidays, vac., med. dental, 401K, & Co. vehicle. Call Linda 1-800-244-1176	WAREHOUSE F/T 89-12 hr. DOE. Receiver, order delivery. Some cust. svcs. 925-622-0000. Connie 925-915-0000 or 901-0525	254 Domestics	254 Domestics	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
TECHNICAL SERVICES SUPPORTED LIV. SPECIALIST Ass't. disabled adults to live in. 410-412-2701	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TEACHER - School Age - (Spanish/English) Come be a part of our person capable of performing many functions inc. including: writing, reading, shipping & receiving, Writing & basic computer skills. A plus. Competitive compensation package. Excellent benefits. Call 925-793-0399	TERMINATE INSPECTOR/ Aplicator for termite control. Must be experienced in pest control, commercial, residential, holidays, vac., med. dental, 401K, & Co. vehicle. Call Linda 1-800-244-1176	WAREHOUSE F/T 89-12 hr. DOE. Receiver, order delivery. Some cust. svcs. 925-622-0000. Connie 925-915-0000 or 901-0525	254 Domestics	254 Domestics	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
TECHNICAL SERVICES CURRENT OPENINGS FOR ADULTS IN OUR DD ADULTS IN CCC. 2 yrs exp. in Bldg. 1000. F/T weekends. (925) 284-1462 x254	TEACHER (credentialed): progressive, multi-grade school with 15 independent school. Send resume, cover letter, and salary history. 925-457-0400. Diversity welcomed. E.O.E.	TEACHER (credentialed): progressive, multi-grade school with 15 independent school. Send resume, cover letter, and salary history. 925-457-0400. Diversity welcomed. E.O.E.	TERMINATE INSPECTOR/ Aplicator for termite control. Must be experienced in pest control, commercial, residential, holidays, vac., med. dental, 401K, & Co. vehicle. Call Linda 1-800-244-1176	WAREHOUSE F/T 89-12 hr. DOE. Receiver, order delivery. Some cust. svcs. 925-622-0000. Connie 925-915-0000 or 901-0525	254 Domestics	254 Domestics	NANNY FT at my home; two toddler girls, no super-sitter, age for 1 yr old. Pleasanton. Refs. CCL ref. 925-828-9862	
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Delicious, goliath shrimp take over New York City

■ New restaurant trend in eating enormous crustaceans may not be for the squeamish.

By Eric Asimov
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — They stare up from the plate at Esca, a seafood restaurant in the theater district, like malevolent prehistoric monsters, long claws projecting forward under eyes the size of gray capers, their legs gathered and curled around their spiny bodies, braised fennel strewed across the top. Their size is striking, as big as the arc made by the thumb and middle finger and as thick as a fat carrot.

Yes, these are shrimp, and not merely jumbo shrimp, as the quaint old oxymoron goes. They are "chernobyl shrimp," as David Pasternack, the chef at Esca, gleefully puts it, the biggest of the jumbo, served with fearsome heads intact, and they are the outer limit of the giant shrimp that have been adorning plates all over New York.

At Aquagrill in SoHo, the huge shrimp arrive in a tender embrace over earthy cranberry beans and a sweet carrot sauce. At Smith Street Kitchen in Brooklyn, they rear up out of a bowl of bouillabaisse like the swimming right whales getting ready to sound. At Oceana in Midtown, they are served in bouillabaisse as well as in a sliced spring roll, their tails spilling out of the wrappers like the ends of foot long hot dogs.

"Attack of the Giant Shrimp" may sound like an awful B movie, but these monsters are winning raves from chefs. Not only are they big,

appealing to the American propensity for size, but they taste great, full of the briny, shrimp quality lacking in many of their lesser siblings.

"I'm always trying to get large shrimp," said Rick Moonen, the chef at Oceana. "It's that whole thing, bigger is better."

Until just a few years ago, shrimp distributors reserved their head-on shrimp for the European market, thinking that Americans would be repelled by them. Then, one company started to sell the head-on shrimp to a few Portuguese restaurants seven or eight years ago, and they slowly began to show up in other sorts of restaurants, until they took off about two years ago.

The objects of chefs' shrimp affections are most often head-on Pacific white shrimp, technically *Panaeus vannamei*, caught wild off Guatemala and sold under the Maya brand name. For perspective, ordinary headless shrimp that are sold as "large" are 31 to 35 to the pound. Those called "jumbo" are sold 21 to 25 to the pound, while "super colossals" are fewer than 12 to the pound. The Maya head-on shrimp are about 5 to 10 to the pound, and occasionally even under 5 to the pound.

"They are almost the size of lobsters," Pasternack said. "People have a fascination with size, but they are also one of the great products on the market."

Flavor, of course, is the bottom line, and chefs seem almost unanimously to feel that those shrimp

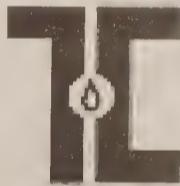
Please see SHRIMP, Page 2



TONY CENICOLATHE NEW YORK TIMES

SEATED 'CHERNOBYL' SHRIMP (technically *Panaeus vannamei*) ponder the way their kind used to be served: sans space-alien heads. While this may be the new trend in fashionable New York restaurants, frequenters of any local hole-in-the-wall Oriental cuisine place will recognize the fearsome face of shrimp, eye stalks, feelers and all, though perhaps not on so grand a scale. These delectable monsters are caught wild off Guatemala and sold under the Maya brand name. Are you brave enough to take on new adventures in seafood?

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Pork tenderloin with Asian flavorsPreparation time: 15 minutes
Marinating time: 30 minutes-2 1/2 hoursCooking time: 40 minutes
Yield: 6 servings

1/4 cup soy sauce

3 cloves garlic, minced

2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

1 piece (1-inch long) ginger root, minced

1 tablespoon each: olive oil, oyster sauce

Freshly ground pepper

2 pork tenderloins, about 2 to 2 1/2 pounds total

1/2 onion, cut into 1/2-inch pieces

1 cup chicken broth

1/2 cup white wine

1 tablespoon cold water

1 teaspoon cornstarch

1. Mix together soy sauce, garlic, mustard, ginger, olive oil, oyster sauce and pepper to taste in small bowl; set aside. Place pork in

shallow roasting pan. Pour marinade over; turn meat to coat well. Marinate 30 minutes at room temperature or 2 1/2 hours in refrigerator.

2. Heat oven to 400 degrees. Drain and reserve marinade from pork. Place onion pieces underneath tenderloins. Tuck under thinner end pieces of the pork. Roast 20 minutes; brush pork with reserved marinade. Continue roasting until pork temperature reaches 150 degrees on instant-read thermometer, about 10 minutes. Do not overcook. Remove meat to cutting board; cover loosely with foil.

3. Meanwhile, put roasting pan over medium-high heat; add broth and wine. Heat to boil, scraping up brown bits and pieces of onion; cook until reduced by half, about 6 minutes. Mix water and cornstarch in small bowl; stir into sauce. Cook until thickened, about 2 minutes. Season to taste with pepper. Slice tenderloins about 1/2-inch thick;

place on platter. Pour sauce over meat.

Nutrition information per serving: calories 390, fat 11 g, saturated fat 3.8 g, percentage of calories from fat 28, cholesterol 180 mg, sodium 460 mg, protein 65 g, carbohydrate 1.9 g, fiber 0.2 g.

Basic roast leg of lamb

Preparation time: 25 minutes

Cooking time: 1 hour

Yield: 12 servings

1 whole leg of lamb, about 8 pounds

6 cloves garlic, cut into slivers

2 tablespoons olive oil

2 teaspoons each: ground thyme, kosher salt

1 teaspoon crushed rosemary

1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Remove most of surface fat from lamb. Make tiny cuts in surface of lamb

Please see ROAST, Page 6



ROASTED
TENDERLOIN
marinade
sauce
oyster
garlic
Simmer
the
over-cook

Shrimp

FROM PAGE 1

have the elusive qualities of taste and texture that they require. One reason is doubtless the head, which contains the tomalley, or liver, and the surrounding fat, which is packed with flavor.

"The flavor is great," said Jeremy Marshall, the chef and co-owner of Aquagrill. "You can take the head off and suck it like a crayfish, and you get all that juicy, creamy flavor."

While thoughts of sucking shrimp heads may inspire fantasies of T-shirts, beers and hunting camps in the Cajun bayous, it does seem to pose an icky obstacle to fastidious New Yorkers. Indeed, cursory observation suggests that New Yorkers spend more time pushing shrimp heads around on a plate than sucking on them.

"We can pop off the heads if it's a problem, but people can appreciate that there's more flavor," said Michael Brack, the lead chef and an owner at Smith Street Kitchen, who considers shrimp-head sucking in his dining room "a little overenthusiastic."

Whatever objections diners may have to sucking heads, though, they are embracing the shrimp with their eyes wide open.

"The consumption of large head-on shrimp has increased fivefold in a period of two years," said Richard Martin, an owner of Wild Edibles, a seafood wholesaler.

"I think every chef in New York City knows what head-on Maya shrimp are now."

Martin remembers eating head-on shrimp all the time in Brittany, where he grew up, but says that Americans have shied away from seafood with heads. "It's work on the plate," he said. "It's like eating whole fish, which were practically nonexistent in restaurants five years ago."

The giant head-on shrimp were also practically nonexistent five years ago, when Val's Ocean Pacific, a Brooklyn wholesaler, started distributing them in the New York area. "At first a head-on shrimp like that was a hard sell, but a few Italian restaurants started using them and others picked up on it," said Val Ricca, the owner.

The Ladeix Corp. in Miami has actually been importing and distributing Maya shrimp of all sizes in New York for 30 years, but always the headless variety, said Ralph Bru, the chief operating officer.

"About seven or eight years ago we started selling the head-on shrimp in New York for specialty markets, like Portuguese restaurants, and we started doing really well," Bru said. "And we've really seen a boom in the last two or three years."

The question of whether to serve shrimp with the heads is rarely up to a chef. Almost all shrimp are headed at sea after they are caught or harvested, and before they are

frozen for shipping. A small percentage, regardless of size, are sold with heads on, like sweet, delicate Maine shrimp, but of the large ones, the Maya shrimp dominate the head-on market.

Some restaurants continue to prefer headless shrimp, as long as they are big. Estiatorio Milos on West 55th Street uses Bee Gee shrimp, which are caught off the coast of Guyana. They are almost as big as the Maya, though headless, and served surrounding a brochette of scallops like the twin C's in a giant Chanel logo. Moonen at Oceana is experimenting with the head-off spot prawn from EcoFish, which he says is shorter but fatter than the Maya.

While diners may prefer bigger shrimp for the same reason they prize tank-like SUV's, chefs say the extreme size makes them easier to cook and better to eat.

"They're really meaty, and you really get a mouthful, the full flavor of the shrimp," said Pasternack, the chef at Esca. "They're more difficult to overcook, they're so large." He said the huge shrimp are best in quick preparations like grilling and searing, and are especially good marinated.

Most of the giant shrimp are caught wild, which has more to do with economics than the preference of chefs. Despite the demand, shrimp farmers are reluctant to cultivate big shrimp, since the smaller sizes are far more profitable, said Dixie Blake, of Ocean Garden Products in San Diego, the country's largest wholesaler of shrimp. They prefer to harvest shrimp four to six months old, though shrimp don't reach full size until about a year. Some farmed shrimp do reach epic proportions, like Asian tiger shrimp, but many chefs disdain the watery texture of those shrimp, which they say directly affects the

taste. While the head-on shrimp are getting easier to find on restaurant menus, they are elusive in the retail market. The retail branch of Wild Edibles in Grand Central Market carries them for \$21 to \$25 a pound, but very few other fish shops do, although some will take special orders.

"The typical American shoppers," said Ricca of Val's, "don't want to mess with the shell, much less the head."

Giant shrimp with artichokes and fennel

Time: 1 hour

Adapted from Esca

Leaves of 2 sprigs fresh rosemary

4 cloves garlic, peeled and thinly sliced

4 tablespoons high-quality extra virgin olive oil

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

16 jumbo shrimp, cleaned and deveined

10 medium to large artichokes

1 teaspoon hot red pepper flakes

2 fennel bulbs, trimmed and thinly sliced

2 sprigs fresh thyme

1 bay leaf

1/4 cup lemon juice

Lemon-flavored olive oil (available in specialty food markets).

1. Combine rosemary, garlic, 2 tablespoons olive oil, and salt and

pepper to taste in medium bowl. Add shrimp, and turn until well coated. Marinate at room temperature for 30 to 60 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, preheat oven to 350 degrees. Using a paring knife, trim stem and outer artichoke leaves to tender hearts.

Quarter hearts lengthwise, and cut out choke. Place in a mixing bowl; add remaining olive oil, pepper flakes, and salt and pepper to taste.

Spread across a baking sheet, and bake until artichokes are tender, about 20 minutes. Remove from heat, and keep warm.

3. In a medium saucepan, combine fennel, thyme, bay leaf and lemon juice. Stir in 1/3 cup water. Cover and simmer over medium-low heat until tender, about 20 minutes.

4. Prepare a grill, or heat a large griddle or skillet until very hot. Grill or sear shrimp until pink, 2 to 3 minutes on each side.

Transfer to a large bowl, and add artichoke hearts and fennel. Drizzle with lemon-flavored olive oil to taste, and toss until well blended. Divide among 4 plates, and serve.

Yield: 4 servings.

Glazed maya shrimp with carrot-ginger sauce

Time: 1 hour

Adapted from Aquagrill

3/4 cup honey

1/2 teaspoon ground coriander

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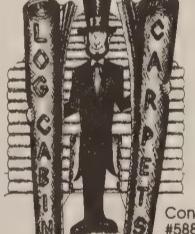
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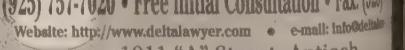
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In January 1983, a devastating fire destroyed the Diablo Inn. Vince Aiello and his wife, Joan rebuilt the restaurant and remodeled the interior with elegant solid oak and gorgeous stained glass windows giving the atmosphere a San Francisco feel to it. In honor of Vince's father, the Aiello's renamed the restaurant Snooker Pete's. The menu has a large variety of different entries to choose from including "blackened" Cajun dishes, steak, veal & fresh seafood prepared by Vince & Joan Aiello, both accomplished chefs.

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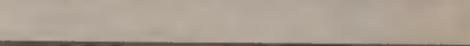
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Solvang's Danish tradition includes pastry baking

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Solvang, in Santa Barbara County, makes the most of its Danish heritage. The place name, derived from the Danish for "sunny fields," reflects the local climate.

A Danish-American colony was founded here by Danish educators who moved from the Midwest around 1910 to the site of a Spanish mission dating back more than a century earlier.

Solvang is sometimes dubbed "Little Denmark" and it's now a tourist haunt. Visitors come for attractions that range from picturesquely architecture, timber and brick frame buildings with hand-carved wooden scrollwork and leaded windows, to plenty of places to taste traditional food.

A main draw is sampling specialty dishes at a variety of Danish-themed eating places. These range from informal cafes to traditional copper-roofed restaurants and a clutch of bakeries.

Bent Olsen, of Olsen's Danish Village Bakery, is a third-generation Danish bakery owner who arrived here in 1970. He bakes pastries based on recipes for Old World favorites that came from the original Olsen family bakery, established in Denmark in 1890.

Pastries, Bent says, are to Denmark what apple pie is to the U.S.

Bent went on to confirm this hint that he's an outfit man. "When I leave Solvang for three or four days, what do I miss most?" he asked, then gleefully answered his own question. "A pastry! I still love it, I eat two or three a day."

There's a difference between

what Americans know as Danish pastries and the rich-tasting originals that people in Denmark still make, he says. "The amount of butter we roll into the cakes is much more."

Almond custard kringle

Recipe from Olsen's Danish Village Bakery, Solvang.

Butterscotch Filling:

1 cup almond paste
1 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup butter
Pinch salt
Pinch cinnamon
1/2 egg white
Custard Filling:
1 cup custard (use instant custard)
Kringle Dough:
3/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
1 package cake yeast
1/4 cup warm water
1/4 cup lukewarm milk
1/4 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon lemon extract
1 egg
2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
A little jam or 1 tablespoon raisins, optional filling

Toppings:

2 tablespoons milk
2 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons sliced almonds
To prepare Butterscotch Filling: Mix almond paste, brown sugar, butter, salt, cinnamon and egg white until smooth. Set aside. Prepare custard; set aside.

To prepare Kringle: Divide butter in half and spread each half on an 8-by-8-inch square of waxed paper. Chill.
Dissolve yeast in warm water. Add lukewarm milk, sugar, salt,



MARK DOLYAK/AP

ALMOND CUSTARD KRINGLE, derived from a traditional Danish pastry, is made of layers of dough folded over butter, shaped into a round twist.

lemon extract and egg, mix well. Add flour and mix until smooth. Divide dough in half.

Roll half of dough on well-floured board to an 8-by-12-inch rectangle. Place 1 square of chilled butter on two-thirds of dough rectangle. Fold uncovered third of dough over the middle third, then fold the remaining third over the top. Again, fold one end over middle third and fold remaining third over top, making a square of nine layers. Wrap in waxed paper and refrigerate 30 minutes.

Roll dough again to an 8-by-12-inch rectangle. Add second square of chilled butter and fold again as before. This makes 18 layers. Refrigerate dough 2 hours.

Cut dough into two equal pieces. Lightly roll one piece at a time, until piece is about 20 by 6 inches.

Spread center third of dough with 1/2 of prepared Butterscotch Filling. Add 1/2-cup custard and optional raisins or jam. Fold one of the long edges to the middle. Moisten other edge and fold over the top to cover filling. Seal well. Put Kringle on greased baking sheet and form into oval or twist-crest shape, pressing ends together to form continuous circle. Flatten dough slightly with palms of hands.

Cover with waxed paper and leave 1 hour at room temperature. Brush top with milk, sprinkle with sugar and almonds and bake at 350 F for 25 to 30 minutes or until golden brown. Makes 2 Kringles of about 12 servings each.

Nutrition information per serving: 455 cal., 25 g fat, 90 mg chol., 378 mg sodium, 7 g pro., 54 g carbo., 2 g dietary fiber.

ing: calories 450, fat 29 g, saturated fat 12 g, percentage of calories from fat 60, cholesterol 155 mg, sodium 425 mg, protein 44 g, carbohydrate 0.8 g, fiber 0.2 g

Lawry's prime rib

Preparation time: 10 minutes

Cooking time: 2 hours

Yield: 8 servings

Executive chef Jackie Shen shares the recipe for the legendary Lawry's prime rib. (Adapted for home cooks, of course. They roast six whole roasts at a time in a convection oven. Shen cooks them to only 100 degrees for rare.) Part of what makes Lawry's prime rib so

lusciously tender is that the meat is aged for 21 days. If you want to try aged meat at home, ask your butcher if he can age it for you. Rock or kosher salt

1 4-rib prime rib roast (about 8 pounds)

4 tablespoons seasoning salt

1. Heat oven to 450 degrees. Place rock salt to cover bottom of roasting pan. Trim fat from roast, leaving about 1/4 inch of fat on top. Rub seasoning salt generously over top and sides.

2. Roast 30 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350 degrees; cook 30 minutes. Check internal temperature of roast with instant-read

thermometer; continue roasting until internal temperature reaches 120 degrees for rare, about 1 hour. Cool further if desired to 130 degrees for medium-rare or 140 degrees for medium. Let rest 20 minutes before carving.

Nutrition information per serving: calories 645, fat 55 g, saturated fat 23 g, percentage of calories from fat 78, cholesterol 135 mg, sodium 620 mg, protein 35 g, carbohydrate 0.2 g, fiber 0 g, calories 645, fat 55 g, saturated fat 23 g, percentage of calories from fat 78, cholesterol 135 mg, sodium 620 mg, protein 35 g, carbohydrate 0.2 g, fiber 0 g.

Nutrition information per serving:

2. Roast until instant-read thermometer reads 125 degrees for rare, about 1 hour. Or cook further as desired to 130 degrees for medium-rare, about 35 minutes, or to 140 degrees for medium. Let rest 20 minutes before carving.

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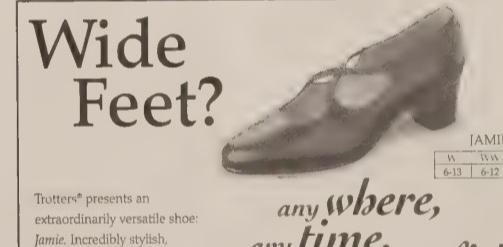
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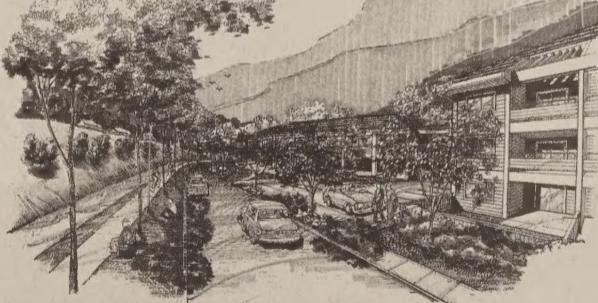
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- Wellness program supervised by licensed nursing staff
- 24-hour caregiving staff and security
- Individualized service plans to meet specific care needs of residents
- Incontinence management program
- Three delicious meals a day and snacks
- Activities, social programs and weekly excursions
- Scheduled transportation
- Weekly housekeeping and laundry service



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East County's Premier Licensed Assisted Living Facility

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- State of the art emergency medical response system
- Assistance with medications
- Alzheimer's/Dementia care in a home-like atmosphere
- Ongoing assessment and care management
- Complete wellness programs
- Individual care to meet your needs, not ours
- Fully secured gated community

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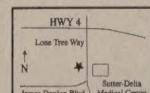
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Living A Healthier, Wealthier, Happier Lifestyle!

Living healthier, wealthier and happier will be the theme of Ageless Lifestyle Magazine's "Live" show, April 20, 21 and 22 at the Chronicle Pavilion in Concord, CA. Five unique lifestyle areas, plus a special Expo, will be presented in a fun festive environment under a 50,000 square foot "Big Top" exposition area. Health & Fitness, Travel Leisure, Computer & Internet, Finance and Active are some of the exciting exposition areas that will be created. Attendees can enter to "free cruise," book an African safari, plan their next weekend getaway aboard Amtrak and receive a host of free gifts and giveaways from various companies. Stop by the Health & Fitness Pavilion for the latest trend in "functional fitness" or receive a free health screening from one of the many medical experts on hand. Financial lectures, interactive computer displays and a host of exciting companies will be on hand to help inform, educate and entertain today's adult market. In the adjacent space, Sportslink Productions will be hosting the largest Golf Expo in the East Bay. Representatives from club manufacturers and specialty destinations will be on hand to discuss the latest trends, techniques and destinations in the world of golf. Professionals from both the PGA and LPGA will also be operating a series of workshops and clinics designed to improve your game. Go to www.agelesslifestyle.com for additional information about this upcoming event. To learn how your company can participate at this event or get information regarding booth space, contact Ageless Lifestyle Magazine at 925-676-1053.

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Out & About:
Restaurants, Local Entertainment, Theater, Toys, Shopping, Day Trips

Computer / Internet Service Providers, Trainers, Multi-media Solutions, Cable TV

Finance & Legal:
Banks, Insurance, Estate Planning, Charitable Foundations, Legal Services, Govt Programs





Prime Times

"I Wish I Had Moved to Byron Park Sooner."

A comment often heard from residents at Byron Park! "I have all the PRIVACY I want in my apartment, and CHOICES of things to do, when I want to! I was so tired cooking and eating alone. I love the MEALS, and especially the companionship with others! I sure don't miss the expense and worry over taking care of a big house. I have more time and energy now to do other things! And, I feel so FREE here!" express residents from Byron Park.

Byron Park is a fine example of a retirement residence. Residents at Byron Park enjoy meals, housekeeping, transportation and a variety of

physical, educational and cultural activities. There are also opportunities to work on projects to provide scholarships for young people and participate in several projects that benefit others in the community.

Byron Park is located in a secure and ideal country setting between Rossman and downtown Walnut Creek. Most did not think they were "ready yet" when they first came to Byron Park to visit. They were pleasantly surprised! For more information about Byron Park, or to request a brochure or tour, please call (925) 937-1700 or 1-800-937-7974.

Seniors in Contra Costa County now have a new choice in senior housing. St. Teresa, an 86-bed assisted living facility located in Pleasant Hill, is now accepting reservations for its November opening.

St. Teresa is aesthetically pleasing and functional while including all the characteristics that senior residents desire. The layout and décor are designed to offer an environment that soothes the senses. "So often seniors are limited by health conditions that prevent them from experiencing the outdoors, and this environment brings some of those pleasing elements inside for them to enjoy. The entire layout of St. Teresa complements this open, airy concept. All of the interior rooms lead out to a private and secure courtyard, and each room along the perimeter has its own private patio." Other amenities include voice activated emer-

gency call systems and bathroom and shower safety grab bars.

Corporate Manager and Registered Nurse, Cheryl Rathje, a 14 year long term health care veteran offers invaluable insight into the special needs of the elderly.

"Listening over the years to what matters most to residents and their loved ones has given us the insight into what services and amenities meet seniors most important needs."

"Attentive service, providing a safe clean environment and attention to detail has proven to be a successful formula." Our management team has a proven track record in quality care. St. Francis, our sister facility in the Central Valley, has been honored for outstanding performance twice by the California Association of Residential Care Facilities, since it opened in February, 1999. We offer upscale

amenities at affordable rates with no hidden fees, buy-ins, or rate fluctuations based on care levels.

St. Teresa is located in Pleasant Hill at 540 Patterson Boulevard. Introductory monthly rates are: semi-private, assisted living unit is \$1700;

semiprivate Alzheimer's/Dementia unit is \$2900 per month. Rates are all-inclusive. Private rooms are also available. Please call the toll-free number, (800) 970-1197 or (925) 287-8750 for more information or to arrange for a complimentary tour.

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Semi-private assisted living...\$1,700 mo. Dementia semi-private \$2,900

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Gary Allen, Financial Advisor, GO&D, Wealth Advisors, Inc.

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Latest information on Proposition 90 (transferring your tax base) and 1031 Exchange for income property.

Retirement Communities

Representatives of retirement communities from around Northern California, presenting information on services, amenities, insurance and various levels of care including LifeCare, Continuing Care, Assisted Living, Alzheimer's and Dementia Care and much more.

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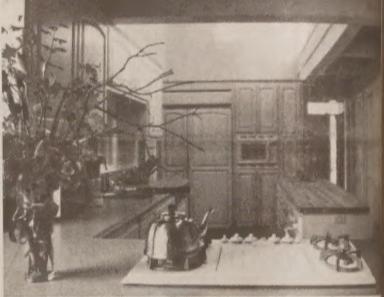
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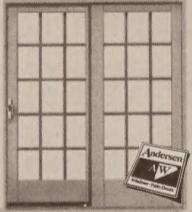
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Feature of the Month Wet & Warm Home Center

Wet & Warm Home Center is owned and operated by Marie and Dave Durkin. They opened their doors in April, 1978 under the business name of D&M Electric and specialized in electrical contracting for commercial pools.

When their children became involved with the local swim teams, they had parents approach them and ask advice regarding their pool equipment. Dave and Marie decided to expand their business to include pool supplies and other product lines. Two years ago they changed the name to Wet & Warm Home Center. The Durkins sell high quality pool supplies, above ground pools, spas, stoves, and offer a full repair service.

Dave and Marie research all the products that they sell very carefully to ensure their customers are getting the best quality products. Marie commented, "Everything we sell, we warranty the products ourselves so you do not have to go to anyone else".

Dave is the Northern California Chapter President for the NSPI, which stands for the National Spa & Pool Institute. Marie Durkin was the very first woman certified in Northern California with the NSPI. To keep up their certification, they must go through 40 hours of training every couple of years.

If you are looking for a new spa, Wet & Warm Home Center carries well-known brands such as Baja, Softub & Blue Pacific. They can arrange financing for your spa or pool purchase as well. The Durkins also have a large selection of stoves to choose from that include popular names like Lopi, Austraflamm, Pacific Energy, Reliant, FPX (Fireplace Extrordinaire), and also carry pellet BBQ's.

With summer weather just around the corner, visit Dave and Marie Durkin at the Wet & Warm Home Center for all your pool and spa needs. They are located at 1201 Somersville Road, Antioch, 757-1311.

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